George Washington Papers, Series 3, Subseries 3G, Varick Transcripts, Letterbook 2

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 1, 1776.

Parole Spotswood. Countersign Gates.

The Picquet duty being too severe on the few Brigadiers who are now here; after this day, the Brigadier General of the day is not expected to lay out on picquet—He will attend on the parade, march off the Guards; see them properly posted; visit them twice in the day, and at day-break in the morning—The Colonel being the immediate commanding officer of the picquet, will be very vigilant to prevent surprise; give immediate Notice to the Brigadier, of any approach of the enemy, or other extraordinary occurrences.

James McCormick of Capt. Farrington's Company, Col Sergeant's Regiment, having been tried and convicted by a Court Martial whereof Col Lasher was President of “Desertion and Mutiny”—is ordered to suffer Death, on the 8th. and 5th. Articles of War—The General approves the sentence, and orders him to be hang'd to morrow at 11 O'Clock—The troops off duty are to be paraded on the Grand Parade at that time.

Capt. Marony, late Provost Marshal, having absented him self from Camp without leave, is suspended, and Thomas Bryan appointed in his stead—He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

No Officer is on any pretence to leave the Camp, without per mission in writing from the Commander in Chief; one of the Major Generals, through their respective Brigadiers, or commanding officers.

The General also thinks it proper to acquaint the officers and soldiers, who have stayed and faithfully attended to their duty, that he has wrote to the respective States, to order back all officers, and soldiers, who have absented themselves with, or without leave; and that he will take the most effectual measures for the purpose.

From the movements of the Enemy, and other corroborating Circumstances, to say nothing of the advanced season, and the necessity which must induce them to bring on a decisive Engagement; the General has abundant reason to believe, that an Attack may be hourly expected—He exhorts every commanding Officer therefore of Corps, to pay particular attention to the state of the Arms

and Ammunition of their men; that nothing may be amiss whenever we are called upon, however sudden it may happen—At the same time he once more recommends, to every officer and soldier, the importance of the cause they are engaged in, and the necessity there is of their behaving like men, who are contending for every thing that freemen should value—He assures the whole, that it is his fixt determination to defend, the Posts we now hold, to the last extremity; and nothing but unparalelled Cowardice can occasion the loss of them, as we are superior in number, and have a better Cause to contend in, than the enemy have—He further declares, that any spirited behaviour, in Officers, or Soldiers, shall meet with its reward, at the same time that Misbehaviour and Cowardice, shall find exemplary punishment.

Every Brigadier, or Officer commanding Brigade, is hereby enjoined and ordered, to select some good officers to be in the Rear of their Battalions, and these Officers are positively ordered to shoot any Officer, or Soldier, who shall presume to quit his Ranks, or retreat, unless the Retreat is ordered by proper Au thority; And to prevent the confusion which is occasioned by every person's undertaking to give, or carry Orders, none are to be looked upon as valid, that are not delivered in the manner mentioned in the Orders of the 7th. Ultimo.

The Militia if they have not already done it, are to get

completed with as much Powder, Ball and Cartridge Paper, as will make 20 Rounds of Cartridges.

That no man, either officer or soldier, may plead ignorance of these Orders, the Colonels, or commanding Officers of Corps, are to take especial care that they be read to the whole, as they will answer the contrary: The Adjutant General is to transmit Copies thereof to Major Genl. Heath and Greene, that the whole Army may be apprised thereof; the General being determined to punish Cowardice, the instant it happens, for the sake of example.

Major Colbourne[68] is appointed to command the Rangers, lately under Col Knowlton—he is to take Orders from General Putnam, to whom they are to make daily reports.

AFTER ORDERS

The following troops to parade at 5. O'Clock, on the Grand Parade, and there receive Orders from Genl. Putnam.

Light Infantry of the Pennsylvania Battalions.

Genl. Mifflin's Brigade to furnish a Lieut. Colonel and 300 Men.

Genl. Wadsworth's Brigade to furnish 200 Men; to be commanded by Col Silliman.

Genl. McDougall's Brigade to furnish a Lieut. Colonel and 200 Men.

Genl. Fellows's Brigade to furnish a Major and 150 Men.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 2, 1776.

Parole Hartford. Countersign Harlem.

Jonathan Pollard Esqr. is appointed Aid-de-Camp to Genl. Heath, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

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68. Maj. Andrew Colburn, of the Fourth Continental Infantry. He was wounded at Harlem Plains, N.Y., in the same skirmish in which Knowlton was killed; lieutenant colonel of the Third New Hampshire Regiment in November, 1776; died of wounds received at Stillwater, N.Y., Sept. 28, 1777.

It is with much Concern the General is informed that tho' the new Rules for the Government of the Army have been out sometime, they have not been generally read to the Soldiers—Surely Gentlemen do not reflect what prejudice it is to the service, to omit so material a point of duty.[69]

It is once more repeated, that every Soldier is to be completed with Ammunition to 24 Rounds a Man; and it is the duty of Officers to see that they have it—Some of the troops who went out on the covering party this morning, had not their Complement, nor had their Officers examined their Arms and Ammunition, before they marched them on the Grand Parade—This Conduct if not amended will be fatal to the Army and the Country—Where the Cartridge-Boxes will not hold the full Complement, application is to be made for Pouches, which may be had at the Commissary's Store.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 3, 1776.

Parole Ireland. Countersign Florida.

Genl. Putnam will please to point out proper places for Huts, to shelter the Picquet-Guard (in front of our lines) and direct the officers who command these Guards, to see that the Men are employed every day at work thereon 'till they axe completed; and this, for the sake of their own Health and Convenience, it is hoped they will do as soon as possible, as the weather will soon grow too uncomfortable to lay without shelter.

As the new Articles for the Government of the Army, are to take place on Monday next, it is expected that the officers will make their men acquainted with them as soon as possible, that Crimes may not pass unpunished on any pretence of ignorance.

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69. The regulations for the government of the army, often called the Articles of War, were ordered published by Congress June 30, 1775; republished by a resolve of December 7, revised and again republished by the resolve of September 20, 1776. They were again revised and ordered republished April 14, 1777. It was the September revision to which Washington alluded.

The several Brigadiers are immediately to return a List, to Head Quarters, of the Field Officers of their respective Brigades, who are absent, and on what account; noting such (if any) as have absented themselves without leave, or stayed beyond their limited time. Colonels and commanding Officers of Regiments are to do the same in their Regiments respectively—This Return to be made on Saturday at 12 O'Clock. When the Brigadier is absent, the eldest officer of the Brigade to make the Return.

Capt. Fitzgerald[73] is appointed to act as a Major to Col Weedon's Regiment, 'till further orders, instead of the brave Major Leitch who is dead of his wounds.

An exact Return of the Officers Names, *fit for duty* in Camp, and *unfit* ; is to be made seperate from the General Return.

The Brigades which send their Detachments first on the parade, are to take the right, as has been the usage for a long time.

No Officer is on any pretence to take off any Soldier, who is employed either as Waggoner, Butcher, Tallow-Chandler, or other Business under the Qr. Mr. General or Commissary General, without first applying to the Head of the department; and in case of dificulty or difference on the occasion, to apply to Head Quarters, and in the meantime the Soldier to continue on the Command.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 4, 1776.[76]

Parole Holland. Countersign Boston.

The shameful Inattention in some of the Camps to decency and cleanliness, in providing Necessaries, and picking up the Offal and Filth of the Camp, having been taken Notice of before in general,

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73. Capt. John Fitzgerald. Later he was lieutenant colonel and aide to Washington.

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76. On this date Washington wrote briefly to Schuyler that he could not furnish nails for barrack building at Albany; that Maj. William Edmonstone, of the Forty-eighth Foot would have to await exchange; and that the Oswego expedition would, he hoped, be laid aside on account of the approach of winter.

After this time particular Regiments will be pointed out by Name when such practices prevail.

The Court Martial whereof Col Magaw was President is dissolved—The Brigade Majors are immediately to settle a new one, Col Weedon to preside.

As there are many Officers in Camp, whose Health will not admit their going on Picquet, but can attend Court Martial, the Brigade Majors are to attend to this Circumstance informing the Court, by which means the duty will be easier to the whole.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 5, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General conceiving it to be his indispensible duty to lay before the Congress the proceedings of the General Court Martial, on the trial of Ensign McCumber, has received the following Orders from them, which he desires those Members, who were favourers of the first judgement would immediately comply with.

In Congress, Septr. 30th. 1776

Resolved.

That General Washington be directed to call upon such of the Members, of the Court Martial, as sat in the trial and concur'd in the acquital, of Ensign McCumber; to assign the reasons for their first judgement, together with the Names of such of the said Members, who were for the acquital; to be returned to Congress.

For the greater ease and convenience of doing the duty, the General directs, that the two Virginia Regiments be formed into a

Brigade, and for the present be under the Command of the eldest Colonel thereof. Also that the regiments lately from Rhode Island, and the Militia Regiments from Connecticut, under the Command of Lieut. Col. Storrs[86] and Major Graves,[87] be formed into another Brigade, and at present be under the command of Col. Lippet[88] —Proper persons to do the duty of

Brigade Majors, to be recommended by the Colonel who commands them, who will be paid during the time of their acting in that office: It is expected that Gentlemen capable of doing the duty, will be recommended, and none others; as it is a melancholy thing, to have the business of the Army, conducted with irregularity and sloth; when every thing should put on the face of activity and life.

After Monday, no Adjutant on the East-side of Hudson's River, will be allowed to take orders at Head Quarters, but they must attend their Brigade Majors, and receive 'era from them—If any Brigade Major is sick, or otherwise unable to attend, the Brigadier, or Colonel commanding, is to signify it to the Adjutant General, and recommend some suitable person to act in his stead.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 6, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Forty men, one Capt: two Sub's to be furnished by the Regiments at Mount Washington, to assist in ballasting the Vessels: They are to take Orders from Andrew Ober on board the Sloop Nightingale—This party to be continued 'till the business is done; Besides, the above regiments stationed at Mount Washington, are to furnish Men in proportion to their strenght for the works there. Col Lippet's

Brigade is to furnish men for the Works opposite Mount Washington, to be laid out by Col Putnam, from whom they are to

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86. Lieut. Col. Ebenezer Storrs.

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87. Maj. Silvanus Graves.

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88. Col. Christopher Lippett, of the Rhode Island Militia.

take Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 7, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Capt. William McWilliams, of the 3rd Virginia Regiment is to do the duty of Brigade Major in Col Weedon's Brigade, 'till further orders.

Representation having been made to the General, that numbers of the Picquet Guard are absent from their Posts, under pretence of fetching provisions and water; He positively orders, that every man (as well Officers, as Soldiers) shall carry provisions with, or have it brought to them at their posts, by their Messmates; as the safety of the Army depends too much on their diligence and attention, to admit of such practices—It is moreover expected of the Officer commanding the Picquet, that he does not, under any pretence whatever, suffer the men to straggle from their respective Posts, without they are sent upon scouting parties by himself; But always to have them in readiness to give such effectual opposition, as to allow time to the line to turn out; which being the end and design of Guards, is defeated if the men, who mount, are not in a posture to give instant opposition.

The Quarter Master General is immediately to provide twenty Wood-Axes for the Picquet Guards, in front of our lines; When provided, he is to deliver them to the Officer commanding the Picquet, who is to see that they are delivered over to the officer relieving, and so from one to the other—the Officer failing will be answerable—These Axes are intended for the purpose

of providing Wood, and erecting Hutts for the Guards, which last ought not to be delayed.

The Brigadiers, and Officers commanding Regiments, are to prevent the irregular and promiscuous placing of Hutts, and to see that they are built in such a manner, as to stand the weather and weight of Snow, which may lodge on them, that no accident may befal the men.

Serjt. George Douglass of Capt. Foster's[99] Company, late McDougall's Regiment, being convicted by a General Court Martial whereof Col Weedon is president of "Embezelling and selling provisions, belonging to the Company"—is sentenced to be reduced to the Ranks, and whipped 39 Lashes—to be continued under Provost-Guard for "Mutinous Speeches and disrespectful language of the Commander in Chief"—George Harris of Capt. Howell's[1] Company, Col Wind's Regiments tried by the same Court Martial, and convicted of "Desertion"—is ordered to be whipped 39 Lashes.

The General approves the above Sentences, and the Provost Marshall is to see the sentence on Harris, executed to morrow morning at Guard mounting.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 8, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The late Serjeant Douglass of Capt. Foster's Company, late McDougall's Regiment, being convicted by a General Court Martial, whereof Col Weedon was President of "Mutinous Speeches and speaking disrespectfully of the Commander in Chief" and sentenced to receive 39 Lashes—The General approves the Sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place—This Offender being a very bad character, is to be continued in the Provost Guard 'till further Orders.

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99. The returns of the first four New York regiments for November, 1776, do not show a Captain Foster. In the court-martial record he is said to be of the regiment commanded by Major Tuthill.

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1. Capt. Silas Howell, of the First New Jersey Regiment.

The Commanding Officer of the Rangers having represented that Soldiers are continually straggling down to Harlem and other Places; frequently without Arms—and that when he has apprehended, and sent them to their Regiments, no farther notice has been taken of them; As this is a plain breach of General Orders, the General hopes there is some mistake in the matter; however to prevent it in future, he now orders that no officer or soldier (Rangers excepted) go on any pretence beyond the

lines, without leave from himself, a Major General, the Brigadier of the day, or the Adjutant General, in writing; unless either of those officers are with them in person: And in order to distinguish the Rangers, they are to wear something *white* round their Arms. If any such Straggler is found hereafter, he is to be sent to the quarter-guard of the Regiment, tried by a Regimental Court Martial, and receive ten Lashes immediately.

There is now an issuing Store for Ammunition, near Genl. Spencer's quarters, the Officers of every Regiment will be responsible if there is any deficiency in their regiments, as they may now receive a full supply by making a Return of the State of their Ammunition, and getting an Order from the Adjutant General.

The Brigade lately commanded by Genl Mifflin is to be under the care of Lord Stirling who is just returned from his Captivity.

The General desires the commanding Officers of each Regiment, or Corps, will give in a list of the names of the Officers and Men, who were killed, taken, or missing in the Action of the 27th of August on Long Island, and since that period. He desires the Returns may be correct, and that any persons who have it in their power, will give in the Returns of this kind in behalf of any Militia Regiments which are discharged.

The General, to prevent any plea of ignorance, again repeats his order against all kinds of Gaming, as destructive and pernicious to the service: He hopes the officers will set no examples of this kind, and that they will punish it among the men.

The General is surprised to find that manning the lines every morning, is discontinued—He desires that the practice of doing it, for the future, may not be omitted, unless contradicted by General Orders.

The Quarter-Master General is to use the greatest diligence, in providing straw for the accomodation of the troops.

Lieut. Kidd[2] of Col Smallwood's Regiment, convicted by a Court Martial whereof Col Ware was President of a breach of General Orders, in “Taking fatigue-men from their duty”—is sentenced to be dismissed the service—Ensign Fairly[3] of the Regiment late McDougall's, tried by the same Court Martial, for the same, is acquitted and discharged from Arrest.—Capt. Hardenburgh[4] of Col Ritzema's Regiment, convicted by the same Court Martial of “Defrauding his men” is sentenced to be

cashiered, and his name, place of abode, and offence, published agreeable to the 2nd. and 4th. late additional Articles of war—

The General approves each of the above Sentences, and orders to be executed.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 9, 1776.

Parole.— Countersign—.

The General positively forbids covering the bottoms of Tents with Earth, as in a few days that situation, must render them totally unfit for service—The commanding Officer of each Corps, will take care to see that this Order is strictly complied with in his own Encampment—In Order that the Regiments may get out of Tents as soon

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2. Lieut. John Kidd.

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3. Ensign James Fairly.

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4. Capt. Cornelius Hardenbergh.

as possible, the Brigadiers may apply to the Qr. Mr. General for Boards, and under his direction, employ the spare time of their men in building Barracks, or Hutts, fit for Winter use. These Hutts, or Barracks, are to be built with regularity. The Works of defence are not to be retarded by these buildings; they are to be advanced by the men off duty, if tools are to be had for them to work.

The respective Brigadiers are to inquire into the state of the Ammunition of their Brigades, and every Colonel is to have a Box of spare Cartridges, to supply occasional deficiencies.

Edward Sherburne Esqr. is appointed Aide-De-Camp to General Sullivan, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

David Dexter Esqr. is appointed to act as Brigade Major to the Brigade under Col Lippet.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 10, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

If the weather is favourable to morrow morning, the General purposes to visit the troops at their Alarm posts. Commanding Officers of regiments, and others, are desired to make them selves well acquainted with their Alarm Posts, and the best ways to them; And also with the Ground in general, upon which they may be called to act, so as to avail themselves of every advantage. If Officers do not acquire this knowledge, they will miss the best opportunity of distinguishing them selves, and serving their Country.

If there should be any bad weather, the greatest care is to be taken of the Arms and Ammunition; and Officers must

attend to it themselves, or, from experience we know, there will be great danger of their being unfit for action.

Whenever any Field Officer is sick, leaves the Camp, or by any other means becomes incapable of duty, his Brigade Major is desired to signify it to the Adjutant General, otherwise it is impossible to have the duty regularly done.

Daniel Murphey of Capt. Edward's[11] Company, 3rd. Pennsylvania Battalion; Thomas Dickens of Capt. Hobby's[12] Company Col Ritzema's Regiment—John Stone of Capt. Grubb's[13] Company, Col Brodhead's Battalion—All having been tried by a Court Martial whereof Col Weedon is President, and convicted of "Desertion"—are sentenced to receive 39 Lashes each—the above Daniel Murphey having been convicted by the same Court Martial of "Inlisting into another Regiment"—is sentenced to receive 39 Lashes for that offence.

The General approves the above Sentences, and orders them to be executed at the usual time and place.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 11, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign —.

Col Ewing,[14] Lt. Col Penrose,[15] Major Fitzgerald,[16] Capts. Thorne,[17] Ballard,[18] Packay,[19] and Yates[20] to sit as a Court of Enquiry into the Conduct of Col Van Cortlandt,[21] and Major Dey,[22] towards each other; to meet this afternoon at 3'O'Clock, at the Court Martial Room, and make report as soon as possible to the General—Brigade Majors to give them immediate notice.

—Talmadge[23] Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major to Genl. Wadsworth, and is to be obeyed, and respected accordingly.

As there is an absolute necessity for the business

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11. Capt. Evan Edwards. He was transferred to Hartley's Additional Continental regiment Jan. 1, 1777; aide to General Lee this year; major of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment in 1779; transferred to the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment in 1781; retired Jan. 1, 1783.

12. Capt. David Hobby, of the Third New York Regiment. Later he was major of New York Militia.

13. Capt. Peter Grubb, of Miles's Pennsylvania rifle battalion. He resigned in July, 1778.

14. Col. Thomas Ewing, of the Third Maryland Battalion, Flying Camp.

15. Lieut. Col. Joseph Penrose, of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment.

16. Maj. John Fitzgerald, of the Third Virginia Regiment.

17. Capt. Joseph(?) Thorne, of the New Jersey Militia.

18. Capt. William Hudson Ballard, of the Sixth Continental Infantry.

19. Capt. Aquila Paca, of the Second Maryland Battalion, Flying Camp.

20. Capt. Thomas Yates, of the Second Maryland Battalion, Flying Camp.

21. Col. Pierre Van Cortlandt, of the New York Militia.

22. Maj. Richard Dey, of the New Jersey Militia.

23. Benjamin Tallmadge. He was captain in the Second Continental Dragoons in December, 1776; major in April, 1777; thanked by Congress Dec. 6, 1780, for the capture of Fort St. George on Long Island, N. Y.; managed the secret service of the main army around New York City from 1778 to the end of the war.

of the Army to be carried on with regularity, and to do this, that the officers of each department should have the regulation and direction of matters, appertaining to their respective Offices, in Order that they may become amenable to the public, or the Commander in Chief, when called upon—It is hereby directed by the General, that No Horse, or Waggon, shall be taken by any Officer, of whatever Rank, without an Order from Head Quarters, the Qr. Mr. General, or Waggon-Master General: But when either are wanted for regimental uses, the application shall go from the Commanding Officer of the regiment, in writing to the Q: M: Gl: or W. M. Gl. who will issue his orders therefor; and if wanted for the dispatch of public business the application to be made by the Engineer in writing—all Teams be longing to the public, or in their pay, are to be delivered to the Quarter Master General, registered, and under his direction.—The Quarter Master General is to take especial care of all Grain and Hay, belonging to the Public, and see that none of it is delivered, but by his order: And as these Articles are scarce, it is ordered, that all Officers, whose duty does not oblige them to be on horseback, dispose of the Horses, or send them out of Camp, immediately, as provender cannot be spared for them on any pretence.

No Boards are to be taken for the use of any Brigade, or Regiment, without orders, nor delivered but by order of the Quarter Master General, who is to make as equal a distribution among the Regiments as may be, and see they are put to the best use possible, and with as little waste, as there may be difficulty in getting them.

Mutual Complaints having been made by Mr. Fisk the Engineer, and Mr Kinsey the Waggon Master against each other.

A Court of enquiry of 3 Captains, and 4 Subs—from Genl McDougall's Brigade to sit, and report the matter, with their opinion thereon; to meet to morrow Afternoon at 3 o'Clock, at the Court Martial room.

The General being accidentally prevented, from going to the Alarm-posts this morning; if the weather is fair, he will visit the Troops to morrow morning, accompanied by the General Officers; he hopes the wholeline will turn out as full as possible.

The time of the Fatigue Men going out is altered to 8 O'Clock, instead of Seven—The men are to breakfast before they go, as they are not to leave Work on that account. The General hopes the

officers will exert themselves, to complete the works, as fast as possible, that the men may be the sooner covered.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 12, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General orders, that one man from every Mess, be kept cooking, till there are provisions dressed for three days The Butchers are also to keep killing.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 13, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General expressly orders, that the men have four days provisions *ready dressed* , at all times, for which purpose the Commissaries, or the Deputies, are to keep the Butchers constantly killing, till such supply is had, and one man from every Mess is to be kept cooking—The commanding Officers of Regiments, and others, are most earnestly requested to see this order carried into immediate

execution.

Supplies of Ammunition may now be had, so that any Officer who now neglects getting what is necessary, must be accountable to his Country, and the men under his command.

When any Regiments are about to march, they are to have their Tents struck, rolled up, and a Guard under the Command of a careful Officer, to attend them, and the Baggage; who is not under any pretence to leave them, without orders.

As the Enemy seem now to be endeavouring to strike some stroke, before the Close of the Campaign, the General most earnestly conjures, both Officers and Men, if they have any Love for their Country, and Concern for its Liberties; Regard to the safety of their Parents, Wives, Children and Countrymen; that they will act with Bravery and Spirit, becoming the Cause in which they are engaged; And to encourage, and animate them so to do, there is every Advantage of Ground and

Situation, so that if we do not conquer, it must be our own fault How much better will it be to die honorable, fighting in the field, than to return home, covered with shame and disgrace; even if the cruelty of the Enemy should allow you to return? A brave and gallant behaviour for a few days, and patience under some little hardships, may save our Country, and enable us to go into Winter Quarters with safety and honour.[30]

The marching of some troops to Kingsbridge, makes it necessary to reduce the Picquet to 600 Men, and the Fatigue proportionately.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 14, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Col Bailey's[35] Regiment is immediately to join Genl. Clinton's Brigade, at present under the Command of Col Glover—

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30. On October 13, at noon, a meeting of general officers was called by the Commander in Chief, at Kings Bridge. Through Adjutant General Reed he requested General Heath to select the location and give his officers notice “with as little stir as possible.”

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35. Col. John Bailey, of the Twentythird Continental Infantry.

Col Lippets Regt. is to join Genl. McDougall's Brigade—Each of these Regiments are to take their Tents and Cooking Utensils, and to lose no time—The two Connecticut Regiments, under the Command of Col. Storrs and Major Greaves, (not upon York Island) are to be in readiness to march into Westchester, at a moments warning.

The Brigades which will then remain on the Island, will be in two Divisions; the first composed of Heard's, Beall's and Weedon's,[36] to be under the Command of Major Genl. Putnam—The second consisting of Lord Sterling's, Wadsworth's, and Fellows's, to be under the Command of Major General Spencer.

Genl. Putnam will attend particularly to all the works, and necessary places of defence, from the Line which was intended to be run across from Head Quarters, inclusively up to, and including the

Works upon, the Island above that place, as far as hath usually been considered as belonging to this division of the Army—He will also attend particularly to the Works about Mount Washington, and to the obstructions in the River, which should be increased as fast as possible.

Genl. Spencer is to take charge of all the Works from Head Quarters, to our front lines, to the South; and attend particularly to all weak places; seeing they are secured as well as time, and circumstances will permit: But as there may be more fatigue Men wanted in one division than the other, they are each to furnish for such Works as the Chief Engineer shall direct; seeing that the duty fall equally upon the officers and men of each division.

A Report is immediately to be made, by the commanding Officers of Regiments, to their several Brigadiers, of the state of ready dress'd Provisions, that if there be any Neglect, or deficiency

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36. Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Heard's New Jersey Militia, Brig. Gen. Rezin Beall's Maryland Militia, and Col. George Weedon's Virginia brigade.

the one may be punished and the other rectified.

The Court Martial of which Col Weedon was President is dissolved A new one to be formed, Col Ewing to preside.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 15, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Col. Joseph Reed's[37] Regiment is to join Gen McDougall's Brigade and Col Hutchinson's (when the Work he is ordered to execute is finished, is to join Genl. Clinton's Brigade, at present under the Command of Col Glover.

Sergeant's, Ward's and Chester's,[38] Regiments, and the Regiment commanded by Lieut. Col Storrs, are to form a Brigade and be under the Command of Col Sergeant.

Col Storr's and the Regiment under Major Greaves,[39] are to march immediately into Westchester —The first to join the Brigade he is appointed to; the other to join the Regiments commanded by

Cols. Douglass and Ely,[40] and with them be under the Command of Genl. Salstonstall; as Cols. Horseford's[41] and Major Rogers's Regiments are (but to remain where they at present are, 'till further orders) These five Regiments to compose Genl Salstonstall's brigade.

The other two Connecticut Regiments, encamped upon Harlem River, opposite Head Quarters, are for the present, from their situation, to be annexed to Genl. Parsons's Brigade, and be under his command.

The Brigades are now to be formed into Divisions (Those on York Island as mentioned in Yesterday's Orders) Nixon's, McDougall's, and that commanded by Col Glover, to compose one, under

37. Col. Joseph Read, of the Thirteenth Continental Infantry.

38. Col. John Chester, of a Connecticut State regiment.

39. Maj. Silvanus Graves, of the Seventh Connecticut Militia Regiment.

40. Cols. John Douglas and John Ely, of the Connecticut Militia.

41. Col. Obediah Horseford, of the Connecticut Militia.

the Command of Major Genl. Lee—Parsons's, Scott's, and Clinton's another, under the Command of Major Genl. Heath—Salstonstall's, Sergeant's and Hand's, another, under the Command of Major General Sullivan; and the Massachusetts militia another, under the Command of Major Genl. Lincoln.

The General in most pressing terms exhorts all Officers commanding divisions, brigades and regiments &c. to have their Officers, and the Men, under their respective Commands, properly informed of what is expected from them; that no Confusion may arise in case we should be suddenly called to Action, which there is no kind of doubt, is near at hand, and he hopes, and flatters himself, that the only contention will be, who shall render the most acceptable service to his Country, and his Posterity. The General also desires, that the Officers will be particularly attentive to the men's Arms and Ammunition, that there may be no deficiency, or application for Cartridges, when we are called into the field.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 17, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

There are a number of priming Wires and Brushes in the Commissary's Store, near Genl. Spencer's Quarters, and at Kingsbridge; in the latter a number of Pouches, which are to be distributed among the Brigades. The Brigadiers are desired to send to those places, where they may receive priming Wires and Brushes; the

Pouches are to be divided, and each Brigadier is to send for his proportion, as soon as possible and have them filled with spare Cartridges.

As the Movements of the Enemy make an Alteration of our position necessary,[47] and some Regiments are to move towards them, the commanding and the other Officers of Regiments, are to see the following Orders punctually executed.—The Tents are to be struck, and carefully rolled, the men to take the Tent poles in their hands—two Men out of a Company with a careful Subaltern, to go with the Baggage, and not leave it on any pretence—No Packs (unless of Sick Men) Chairs, Tables, Benches or heavy lumber, to be put on the Waggons—No person, unless unable to walk, is to presume to get upon them—The Waggons to move forward before the Regiments, the QuarterMaster having first informed himself from the Brigadier, or Brigade Major, where they are to pitch—Every Regiment under marching orders, to see they have their Flints and Ammunition in good order and complete.

Lieut. Nevins[48] of Col Tylers Regiment is to do the duty of Captain, in the room of Major Chipman[49] lately promoted.

Daniel Lyman Esqr. is appointed Major of Brigade to Genl. Fellows, and is to be respected accordingly.

A General Court Martial whereof Col Ewing was President, having convicted Lieut. Pope[50] of the Rangers, of the scandalous Crime of “Conniving at plundering—contrary to frequent and express orders,” and sentenced him to be cashiered; The General approves the sentence, and he is accordingly cashiered.

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47. On October 17 Robert Hanson Harrison wrote to the President of Congress:

"I am directed by his Excellency to acquaint you, that we are again obliged to change our disposition to counteract the Operations of the Enemy, declining an Attack upon our Front, they have drawn the main body of their Army to Frogs point with a design of Hemming us in, and drawing a line in our Rear. To prevent the consequences which would but too probably follow the execution of their Scheme, the General Officers determined yesterday that our forces must be taken from hence, and extended towards East and West Chester so as to out flank them. Genl. Lee who arrived on Monday, has strongly urged the absolute necessity of the measure. It is proposed to leave a Garrison at Fort Washington, and to Maintain it if possible, in order to preserve the communication with the Jerseys. They are landing their Artillery and Waggons upon the point, and there are now several boats passing up the Sound full of Men."

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48. Lieut. David Nevins, of the Tenth Continental Infantry.

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49. Maj. James Chapman, of the Tenth Continental Infantry.

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50. Lieut. Jacob Pope, of the Twenty-first Continental Infantry. He was doing duty as a ranger at this time.

The same Court having convicted Corporal Geo. Wilson[51] of "plundering Mr. Bushey's House at Harlem"—and sentenced him to receive 39 Lashes—The General approves the Sentence, and orders it to be executed to morrow on the parade, before the Guards march off—The Provost Marshal to see it done.

Col Weedon's and Col Reed's Regiments to join Lord Stirling's Brigade immediately.

Major Parker[52] of Genl Heard's Brigade to attend the Works, and be excused other duty.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 18, 1776.

Parole Stamford. Countersign France.

As the Brigades of the Army now move at such distance from each other, that a punctual attendance, at Head-Quarters, for Orders, cannot be expected—One Brigade Major from each Major General's division, is to attend, as early in the day as he can—the several Brigade Majors,

or Adjutants who act as such, are to attend him at a stated hour, and then distribute the Orders through the several Brigades, and Regiments, as fast as possible.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 21, 1776.

Parole Heath. Countersign Sullivan.

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51. Corp. George Wilson, of the Rangers.

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52. Maj. Samuel Franklin Parker, of the New Jersey Militia.

The hurried situation of the General for the two last days, having prevented him from paying that attention to Col Glover, and the officers and soldiers who were with him in the Skirmish on Friday last, that their merit and good behaviour deserved—He flatters himself that his thanks, tho' delayed, will nevertheless be acceptable to them, as they are offered with great sincerity and cordiality—
At the same time he hopes, that every other part of the Army will do their duty, with equal duty and zeal whenever called upon; and that neither dangers, difficulties, or hardships will discourage Soldiers, engaged in the Cause of Liberty, and contending for all that Freemen hold dear and valuable.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Plains, October 23, 1776.

Parole Denton. Countersign Chester.

The Guards of the Camp are to be mounted from the several divisions of the Army—their Numbers to be fixed, and their Posts assigned them, by the General Officers of that division—General Spencer's division to furnish the Main Guard, Quarter Master General's and Commissary General's Guard; Bullock Guard and Provost Guard.

It has been observed with some Concern, that scouting parties go out without any advanced, or flanking parties, both which are absolutely necessary for their safety and success, and which they must have on all occasions.

The commanding Officers of Regiments should, on all Marches, draw provisions for the Waggoners, who attend them, and give them all possible assistance—When their baggage is unloaded, they should have the Teams drawn up, set a Guard over them, and

prevent any loss of the Horses, or abuse of the Drivers, and take care of them 'till they are ordered away.

Any officer, or soldier, who shall presume to meddle with any Horses, belonging to the public, or any other not his own property will be severely punished. And all officers of the army are requested to stop soldiers, who are riding about without Saddles, until they give an Account of themselves; and if they are found breaking Orders, to send the offender to the Guard, and the horse to the Quarter Master General, or to Head-Quarters.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Plains, October 24, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Commanding Officers of regiments are immediately to have Necessaries dug, decently covered, at a small distance from their Encampments—They axe every day to be covered over with fresh earth, and once a week to be filled up and new ones dug—All bones, meat and other dirt of the Camp, to be carefully gathered up every day—Those Regiments who have not appointed Camp-Cauleur-Men,[65] are to do it immediately, and it is the duty of the Quarter. Master to see that they do their duty. Two men from every Company to be appointed. If officers would reflect how much cleanliness would conduce to their own health, and that of their men, they would want no inducement to attend to it particularly.

The Brigade Majors of Genl. Spencer's division, are immediately to form a Court Martial—A Colonel to preside.

Genl. Sullivan's division to furnish its proportion of the detail made yesterday, for home guards.

Rolls are to be called three times every day, and the General begs the officers to exert themselves, to keep their men from

65. Camp-Coulour-Men were the camp police.

straggling away from the Camp—Officers and men would do well to reflect that their safety, their lives, and the liberty of their Country may depend on their being at hand, in case of an Alarm—Any Man who is found half a mile from the Camp, not *on Command* , will be punished very severely.

All the officers who have assisted in the Works to meet at Col Putnam's Quarters, just above Head-Quarters, at 3 O'Clock this afternoon, in order to lay out a number of works. The Engineers are to proportion the entrenching tools at this place, among the several Grand Divisions, and after to day to apply to each General commanding such division, for such numbers of men, as may be wanted for the several works, who are to begin to work at 9 O'clock in the morning, and continue working till four in the afternoon.

Brigade Majors are to have their Returns completed immediately.

General Heath's and General Sullivan's divisions, not having complied with yesterday's Orders, to furnish 30 Men; they are to do it to morrow without fail, and to be more careful in future.[66]

It being absolutely necessary, that the Teams should be collected, in order to be arranged by the Quarter-Master General; The commanding Officers of regiments are immediately to send to the parade, at the Court-house, every team, not under an actual Order to march: No officer to take any Team for any use, without an Order from Head Quarters, or the Quarter Master General—The commanding Officers of brigades and regiments, who at any time may be supplied with Teams, are to take particular Care, that the Drivers of Waggons in their employ are regularly supplied with Grain and Hay for their Horses, if such Provender can be obtain'd in the Neighbourhood of their respective Camps. If the Owners of

66. See first paragraph of General Orders, Oct. 23, 1776, *ante*.

such Provender refuse to sell, such commanding Officers are to order their Quarter Masters, to collect as much Provender as will be necessary for the public horses, in their service, and give Certificates to the Owners of the Provender, of what the Quarter Masters may receive, or take.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Plains, October 25, 1776.[67]

Parole—. Countersign—.

The Guards are to be continued as settled the last evening, 'till further Orders, and the Brigade Majors to be very careful that the Guards are properly relieved.

The General most earnestly recommends to all commanding Officers of Brigades, and Regiments, to extend their care to the Waggons which they have, or may employ, and to dismiss them as soon as they have brought their baggage, and have been refreshed.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Plains, October 26, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Capt. Ebenezer Huntington[68] is to assist the Adjutant General in regulating the duties, and details of Genl Heath's division, 'till further orders.

An Aide-De-Camp from each Major General is to attend at Head Quarters, at twelve o'clock, every day, to receive the General Orders—he is to see that the Brigade Majors execute them in the division.

An Orderly Serjeant from each Brigade, of General Spencers division, to attend at Head-Quarters every day, to bring his provision with him, and not to go away 'till regularly relieved.

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67. On this date Robert Hanson Harrison wrote to Congress from headquarters of the withdrawal of the army to its new position, leaving 1,400 men at Mount Washington and 600 at Kings Bridge. A surprise of the British was attempted by a detachment under Col. John Haslet, of the Delaware Regiment, which only partially succeeded. Maj. John Green, of the First Virginia Regiment, was badly wounded. A few days later a party of Col. Edward Hand's Pennsylvania rifle regiment routed an equal force of Hessians with the loss of only one man. “Experiment having proved it difficult, if not impossible, to prevent the Enemy from possessing the navigation of the North River and rendering the Communication and Intercourse between the States divided by it, extremely hazardous and precarious by means of their Ships of War, It has become a matter of important consideration how to remedy the evil and to guard against the consequences which may result from it. I am charged by his Excellency to mention it to Congress, as a matter that has employed much of his thought, and that seems worthy of their most serious attention. He has communicated it to several of the

General and other Officers, and to many Gentlemen of sense and discernment, who all agree with him, not only upon the propriety, but the absolute necessity, that Two distinct Armies should be formed, the One to act particularly in the States which lay on the East, the other in those that are on the South of the River. The whole, however, to be raised on a General plan, and not to be confined to any particular place by the Terms of Enlistment. These matters, the apparent difficulty and perhaps impracticability of succours being thrown across the River, while the Enemy can command it, have induced his Excellency to submit the measure to their consideration, not knowing how their Operations may be directed, and foreseeing that innumerable evils may arise if a respectable force is not appointed to oppose their Arms wheresoever they are carried." This letter is in the *Washington Papers*.

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68. Of the Twenty-second Continental Infantry, He rose by successive promotions to lieutenant colonel of Webb's Additional Continental regiment, Third and First Connecticut Regiments.

Upon the due regulation and management of the Waggons, the health and safety of the Army entirely depends, and it will be impossible for the Quarter-Master-General to have any regularity, if officers of the Army undertake to seize Waggons, and compel them to go where they please—The General therefore absolutely forbids any Officer, or Soldier, taking a Waggon by his own authority, and more especially stopping them, when sent on other services, as it is easy to see that the greatest confusion must in that case ensue— When teams are wanted, application must be made to the Quarter-Master-General, or his Deputy, and every Brigade, or Regiment, must wait 'till the service admits their having them in that channel.—The commanding Officers of Regiments are also required to appoint some spirited, resolute officer, to attend the loading of the Waggons, and prevent their being filled with lumber and improper articles: Tents, and the proper Baggage of the Regiment, are only to be put into the Waggons; all others must be left behind; And the General calls upon the General Officers, and commanding Officers of Regiments, to set an example to the soldiers.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

Lieut: Sickles[69] of Genl. Scott's Brigade, tried by a Court Martial whereof Col Holman was President, and convicted of "disobeying General Orders, by loading a Waggon with Goods, not the proper

baggage of the regiment; and also when charged therewith of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, unbecoming an officer and the Gentleman"—The Court sentenced

69. Lieut. Ethan Sickles, of Lasher's New York militia.

him to be cashiered—The General approves the sentence, and orders him to be dismissed the service—He also directs that he leave the Army immediately.

The General observing that the Army seems unacquainted with the Enemy's Horse; and that when any parties meet with them, they do not oppose them with the same Alacrity which they shew in other cases; thinks it necessary to inform the officers and soldiers, that, in such a broken Country, full of Stone-Walls, there is no Enemy more to be despised, as they cannot leave the road; So that any party attacking them may be always sure of doing it to advantage, by taking post in the Woods by the Roads, or along the stone-walls, where they will not venture to follow them; And as an encouragement to any brave parties, who will endeavour to surprise some of them, the General offers *100 Dollars* , for every Trooper, with his Horse and Accoutrements, which shall be brought in, and so in proportion for any part, to be divided according to the Rank and pay of the party.

The Picquet Guard to be reinforced this evening with a regiment from each division; they are to parade at 5 O'Clock this evening near Head-Quarters; the eldest Colonel to command the whole, and to come to Head-Quarters for Orders before they march off.

The constant beating of Drums on all occasions is very improper—there should be no Drum but on the parade, and Main Guard—All fatigue parties to march with the Fife, and no Drum to beat, on any account, after Retreat-Beating, but by special order.

John Cawley and Michael McDaniel of Col Hazletts Regiment, tried by the Court Martial whereof Col Holman was President, for "Robbing Isaiah Rider"—are both acquitted—The General approves

the Sentence, and orders them to be discharged.

James Daniel of Capt. Horton's[70] Company, Col Ritzema's Regiment, convicted by the same Court Martial, is ordered to receive 39 Lashes—forfeit, two month's pay—The General approves the Sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

William Turner and Daniel Shute are appointed Aids-De-Camp to Genl. Lincoln, and are to, be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The Court of Enquiry on Col Tyler; having reported that there is no sufficient reason for the appointment of a Court Martial on his conduct. The General orders him to be released from his arrest.

Regimental Courts Martial to be formed immediately, for the trial of prisoners charged with Crimes under their cognizance.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 29, 1776.[71]

Parole—. Countersign—.

John Eustace Esqr.[72] appointed Aide-De-Camp to General Lee; and Adjt. Bradford[73] of Col. Hitchcock's Regt. is appointed temporary Aide-De-Camp.

The representation made of Col Webb's Regiment yesterday by Genl. McDougall, appearing to be a mistake, and that they kept the post assigned them, notwithstanding a severe Cannonade;

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70. Capt. Ambrose(?) Horton.

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71. On this date Robert Hanson Harrison wrote to Congress a brief account of the engagement at Chatterton's Hill (October 28), which was lost through the panic of the militia. This letter is in the *Washington Papers*. Harrison's letters of October 25 and 29 are printed in the Appendix to volume 4 of Sparks's *Writings of Washington*.

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72. John Skey Eustace. He resigned in 1780.

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73. Adjt. William Bradford, of the Eleventh Continental Infantry, temporary aide to Lee. He became major of Tallman's Rhode Island Militia regiment in December, 1776, and major of Sherburne's Additional Connecticut regiment in January, 1777; retired in January, 1781.

The General takes the first opportunity to make it known, to prevent any unfavorable impression.

Until the Guards are otherwise fixed, every division is to mount Guard opposite to their posts, according to the situation of the ground.

Alexander Scammell Esqr.[74] appointed Assistant to the Adjutant General for General Lee's division.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 30, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The frequent, indeed constant complaints of the men, for want of provisions upon any Move, which is necessary for them to make, induces the General once more to desire, the commanding Officers of Regts. and Corps, to see that they are never without three day's provisions ready dress'd by them.

All Detachments and Parties are to parade, wherever ordered, with their Packs and Provisions, that they may be ready for any Service they are ordered upon.

It is strictly enjoined upon all officers, to disengage themselves of heavy and cumbrous baggage, as the difficulty of procuring Teams, for transportation of necessary baggage, and stores, which necessarily occasions all heavy Boxes, Chests &c. to be thrown away;—

The General insists upon having the Rolls regularly called, that the officers may account for, and know where the men are, who are always to be ready to turn out upon any Alarm; when Waiters are always to appear under Arms. Upon any Alarm, the Drums are to beat through the whole lines, *To Arms* , as quick as possible, and continue beating 'till the whole line is formed.

The Out-Guard to examine all persons riding

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74. Later Adjutant General of the Continental Army; killed at Yorktown, Va.

into Camp without Arms, and turn any back who are not known, or cannot give sufficient reasons for their coming into camp.

The Brigade Majors immediately to settle a General Court Martial—No Member under the Rank of Captain—A Brigadier to preside.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White-Plains, October 31, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General positively forbids any person going down to the lines, and firing upon the Enemy, without an Order from a General Officer—proper scouting parties are to be kept out by each Major General, for intelligence.

The General, in a ride he took yesterday, to reconnoitre the Grounds about this way, was surprised and shocked to find both officers and soldiers, straggling all over the Country under one idle pretence or other, when they cannot tell the hour, or minute the Camp may be attacked, and their services indispensably necessary.[75] He once more positively orders, that neither officer or soldier, shall stir out of Camp without leave; the first from the Brigadier, under whom he serves, and the latter from the commanding Officer of the Corps they belong to.

The Provost Marshal is to take up all Stragglers; and it is enjoined upon all officers to seize every man, who fires his gun without leave, and to have him tied up immediately and receive 20 lashes.

The General desires that the commanding Officers of Corps will always report, their killed and wounded, to the Brigadier they belong to, who is to give an account thereof, to the Commander in Chief.

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75. On October 31 Harrison again wrote to Congress for Washington that “His Excellency would have wrote himself...but his attention is totally engaged in ordering the Affairs of the Army and the best mode for its removal.” He also stated' “Our Army is decreasing fast; several Gentlemen who have come to Camp within a few days, have observed large numbers of militia returning Home on the different roads, nor are any measures taken as yet to raise the New Army, no Committees having come from the States to appoint or signfye the nomination of their Officers.” This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*.

The Court-Martial whereof Genl. Beall was President, having found Capt. Weisner, guilty of “Misbehaviour before the enemy in the attack on Montresor's Island”—and ordered him to be cashiered with infamy,—The General approves the sentence, and orders him to be dismissed the Army.

Ensign Joseph Chapman having resigned his Commission, is appointed Pay-Master to Col Varnum's regiment.

It is with astonishment the General hears, that some officers have taken Horses, between the Enemy's Camp and ours, and sent them into the Country for their private use: Can it be possible, that persons bearing Commissions, and fighting in such a Cause, can degrade themselves into Plunderers of horses?—He hopes every officer will set his face against it, in future; and does insist that the Colonels, and commanding Officers of Regiments, immediately enquire into the matter, and report to him, who have been guilty of these practices; and that they take an Account of the Horses in their respective Encampments, and send to the Quarter-Master-General, all that are not in some public service.

Wounded men to be sent to Doctor Morgan, at the Houses about a mile from the lines, on the road to North-Castle.

Peter Buise of Col Haslett's regiment, convicted by a General-Court-Martial, whereof Col Hitchcock was President of "Desertion from this Camp, and found near the Enemy's Sentinels" is sentenced to suffer *Death* —

The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed to morrow at 11 O'Clock, on the crutch of the road which leads to Youngs and North-Castle.

Commanding Officers of regiments are immediately to have the Arms and Ammunition of their regiments inspected—

The Guns that were loaded before the rain to be discharged in Vollies; and they are acquainted that *three* Waggons, loaded with Ammunition, now wait about a mile on the nearest road to North-Castle, in order to serve such as are deficient.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 1, 1776.[79]

Parole Belford. Countersign Spain.

Peter Buise under sentence of death, and to be executed this day, is reprieved until Monday 11 o'Clock.

The General Court Martial whereof Genl. McDougall is President, to sit to morrow, at the house above Genl. Lee's Quarters, for the trial of Col. Graham[80] —Col Foreman of Genl Heard's Brigade, and other Witnesses to attend.

The moving state of the Army will occasion some irregularity, but the General hopes that officers of all Ranks, will exert themselves, to correct all abuses, particularly the following;

Straggling from Camp, or plundering parties.

Taking up and keeping horses.

Loading the teams with heavy lumber and unnecessary baggage.

Firing in, and about, the Camp.

To prevent the first—the Rolls are to be frequently called, at least three times a day, and the absent punished—To prevent the second, all Horses not belonging to the Artillery, or Ammunition or Field-Officers, to be collected and sent to the QuarterMaster General, near Head-Quarters—To prevent the third, the Field Officers should have a general examination of the baggage of their regiments; and all heavy Chests, Tables, Chairs, and other lumber be left, or

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79. On this date Robert Hanson Harrison wrote to Congress: "I am directed by his Excellency to acknowledge his receipt of your favor of the 28th Ulto...and to transmit you a copy of the letter I had the honor of writing you by the Boston Express by his command. Had the Express been charged with no other Letter, the loss would not have been attended with any material injury to us, or advantage to the Enemy, provided it should come to their Hands, but there were others from his Excellency of a very interesting nature, the miscarriage of which gives him much concern. As the bundle was taken away in so sudden and secret a manner, I fear there is but little hope of recovering it, being done most probably for the express purpose of furnishing the Enemy with Intelligence and a State of our Army. Besides his Excellency's Letters, the most material of which was to Mr. Rutlidge, there were five or six more from the Gentlemen of his family." Timothy Dodd, the express rider, reported that his mail pouch had been stolen from him at Bristol, Pa. A committee of Congress investigated the matter but could not clear it up. Dodd's statement not being so clear or satisfactory as fully to exculpate himself, he was placed under arrest, but after a month's confinement released. (See *Journals of the Continental Congress*, Oct. 29 and 31 and Dec. 12, 1776.) The deputy postmaster at Bristol, one Bessonet, and his barkeeper were arrested and search made for one Wilkins, who was at the tavern when the packet was lost. Nothing, however, was proved against the prisoners.

80. Col. Morris Graham, of the New York Militia.

after this, they will be thrown off the Waggons wherever met with: To prevent firing in Camp, the Order of yesterday to be executed, by giving the offender 10 lashes on the spot, let him belong to what regiment he may.

A Relief having come for the Light-Horse under Major Backers,[81] that Corps is now dismissed with the General's hearty thanks for their faithful services, and the cheerfulness and alacrity they have shewn upon all occasions.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 2, 1776.

Parole Westchester. Countersign Sussex.

The General expressly forbids any person, or soldier, belonging to the Army, to set fire to any House, or Barn, on any pretence, without a special order from some General Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 3, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General is sorry to find, that there are some Soldiers, so lost to all Sense of Honor, and Honesty, as to leave the Army, when there is the greatest necessity for their services: He calls upon the Officers of every Rank, to exert themselves, in putting a stop to it, and absolutely forbids any officer, under the Rank of a Brigadier General, discharging any officer, or soldier, or giving any permission to leave the Camp on any pretence whatever.

The sick of the Militia may be discharged by their General Officer, after he has seen them, and is satisfied of their incapacity to do duty, but not otherwise.

The situation of the Army, and the Season, requiring

81. Maj. Ebenezer Backus, of the Connecticut Light Horse.

that the Soldiery should be as well accommodated as possible, especially at night; the taking of Straw, or even Grain in the sheaf, is not to be considered as included in the Orders against plundering.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 4, 1776.[84]

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General desires, in express and positive terms, that the Brigadiers, and Colonels commanding brigades, see every regiment, respectively belonging to them, paraded to morrow (but not at the same instant)—the rolls called over, and every officer and soldier satisfactorily accounted for, or sent after; their Arms also to be examined, and a report thereof to be made— Where the Brigadiers are absent, or incapable of acting, the Major. General is to attend to the execution of this order.

Peter Buise, under sentence of death for desertion, is further reprieved 'till Wednesday.

All Deserters and Prisoners to be reported to the Brigadier of the troops to whom they come, or by whom they are taken, who is to send them to Head-Quarters, as soon as possible.

The Colonels and commanding Officers of Regiments will remember, that they stand accountable for the Arms received by their respective regiments—that all their spare Arms are to be carefully collected, and sent to the Commissary of Stores, or reported immediately to Head-Quarters.

Col Bailey's Regiment, now in Genl. Nixon's Brigade, to join the Brigade of which Col. Glover is Commandant, and Col Reed's, now in Col Glovers to join Genl. Nixon.

84. The Board of War continued its important clerical functioning during this period and (October 24) wrote to Washington proposing a plan for systematizing radon returns and pay of discharged soldiers. The harassed Commander in Chief asked Robert Hanson Harrison to answer the Board's letter, which he did (November 4), to the effect that his Excellency “esteems the plan you propose to lay before Congress for preventing more Rations being drawn, than may be due, well calculated to answer the end. That respecting the sick, seems to him, not entirely perfect. The Captains or Commanders of Companies are prohibited from drawing pay for such Sick as may be discharged

from the Hospitals as unfit for service. If during their stay, and before it can be known whether their case will or will not admit of their return, It should become necessary to make up a Regimental pay Abstract, in what manner ace the Officers to make up their Rolls? are they to include the Sick or not? As this is a case that may and must of necessity frequently happen, It appears to his Excellency, that the intended regulation should be more general, and restrain the Officers from including in their pay Abstracts or Rolls all the Sick they send to the Hospitals, and the pay due 'em previous to their going. In such case those who are discharged as unfit for service, may receive their pay as intended, and those who return to duty can obtain what was due them, when the Regiment was paid, by applying to the Paymaster with the Officers' and Surgeon's Certificates, or be included in a subsequent Abstract. The Inconveniences and abuses which are designed to be remedied by those regulations, his Excellency does not apprehend to arise so much from necessity as Incident to the nature of Armies, as from the imperfect institution of the present, and the great mixture and diversity of Troops composing It, and also from the inattention of the Officers, in whose appointments but too little regard has been had in choosing men of merit and honor....”Harrison's letter is in the *Washington Papers*.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Plains, November 5, 1776.

Parole Maroneck. Countersign Goshen.

Some Barracks having been already built at Peekskill, and others erecting for the reception of the troops at that place, the General directs, that the Major Generals do select from their several divisions, all their Convalescents and others not entirely *Fit for duty* , and have them sent up there under proper officers. Those men who have been sent into the Country to recruit, are to be included, if they are not well enough to return to their duty in Camp. This Order is not to extend to such sick as are fit subjects for the Hospital, nor is it intended to countermand the orders of the 3rd. Instant, for discharging such of the sick Militia, as chuse to go home after the inspection of the General Officer commanding them: The Arms and Baggage of such men, as move to Peek's-kill, to be taken along, as they are intended for the security of that post. Spare Arms properly put up may also be removed there.

The General is very sensible that the time of service, of many of the Militia, will soon expire, but as this is the most interesting and critical part of the Campaign, and their departure would greatly

discourage the other troops, and injure the service; He doubts not their Love to their Country, will induce them to prolong their stay, until the Close of the Campaign, which must soon happen.

The several Brigadiers, and Colonels commanding Brigades, are immediately to make report of the Tools in their respective Brigades, to the Quarter-Master-General.

The General gives it strictly in charge, to the commanding officer of every regiment, to see that the bottom of the Tents are not covered with earth; and that upon the removal of the Army, at any time, and upon all occasions, Tents are the first things that are put

into the Waggons allowed each regiment—The Brigadiers must pay attention to this also.

The order of yesterday with respect to Col Bailey joining Col Glover's Brigade was founded on a mistake; that Regiment is to continue as at present. Col Webb's is to join Colonel Glover's brigade, and Col. Reed is to join Genl McDougall's brigade.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 6, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—.

As the late movements of the enemy will require some change of our present disposition, the General most earnestly requests, that the men who have been at the Hospital, and out of Camp on any other account, may be immediately collected and join their respective regiments.

It is with the utmost astonishment and abhorrence, the General is informed, that some base and cowardly Wretches have, last night, set fire to the Court-House, and other Buildings which the enemy left: The Army may rely on it, that they shall be brought to justice, and meet with the punishment they deserve.[92]

Mr. John Story is appointed Pay-Master to the Regiment commanded by Col. Hitchcock.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 7, 1776.

Parole Dedham. Countersign Newbury.

The Colonels, or commanding officers of regiments are immediately to parade their men, examine the state of their Regts.

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92. The courthouse at White Plains. A few barns and houses within the Continental lines, in which stores had been lodged, were burned by Washington's order when the army retreated from White Plains (October 31). Sparks states that these two different occasions have been confounded and the burning of the courthouse and some of the village houses ascribed erroneously to Washington's orders.

and make out their Pay-Abstracts in a careful, correct manner for the month of September.

Genl. Wadsworth's Brigade to be in readiness to remove in a short notice, to the ground on which Lord Stirling is posted.

Col Silliman to take charge of the Brigade during Genl. Wadsworth's illness.

The General Officers, Colonels, and commanding Officers of regiments, are again called upon to examine the Baggage of the troops, under marching orders; to take care that the Tents and spare Arms of the regiment are first put into the Waggons, and then the proper Baggage of the regiment—No chairs, tables, heavy chests or lumber of any kind, to be put in, as it will certainly be thrown off, and left.

No officer of any Rank is to meddle with a Waggon, or Cart, appropriated for any other regiment, or public use; as they wish to avoid confusion, and injuring the service.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Plains, November 8, 1776.

Parole Philadelphia. Countersign Portsmouth.

The Court Martial of which Genl. McDougall is President, to sit immediately for the trial of Major Austin[1] in Arrest, upon Charge of “Burning the houses at White-Plains, contrary to General orders.”

Col Graham[2] and Capt. Gerrish,[3] tried by a Court-Martial whereof Genl. McDougall was President, for “Misbehaviour upon the approach of the enemy” are acquitted.

Capt. Poole[4] of Col Cary's Regt. and Genl. Fellows's Brigade, tried by the same Court Martial, and convicted of “Shamefully

1. Maj. Jonathan William Austin, of the Sixteenth Continental Infantry.

2. Col. Morris Graham, of the New York Militia.

3. Capt. Jacob Gerrish, of the First Continental Infantry.

4. Capt. Jacob Poole, of the Sixth Continental Infantry.

abandoning his post”—ordered to be cashiered.

The General approves each of the above Sentences; orders the former to join their regiments, and the latter to depart the Army immediately.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 9, 1776.

Parole—. Countersign—

The General desires, that all Colonels and commanding Officers of regiments, will be particularly attentive, that no discharged men, or men whose times have, or are about to expire, be suffered to carry off any Arms, Camp-Kettles, Utensils, or any other kind of store, which belong to the public; but that the whole be carefully delivered to the Quarter-Master General (or his Assistants) or to the Commissary of Stores, as the case may be; taking Receipts therefor, in discharge of those they have passed for the delivery, in behalf of the Corps they respectively belong to.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, November 10, 1776.

Parole North-Castle. Countersign Bedford.

Such Officers as have been commissioned by the different States for the New-Army, are immediately to set about recruiting from the Troops of such State only, upon the following terms.

Twenty Dollars Bounty.

A Suit of Cloaths.

One hundred Acres of land.

The same pay and Rations, as are now given—The service to continue

during the present Contest with Great-Britain.

Such ample encouragement, it is not doubted, will induce every true Lover of his Country, to engage in its defence; to preserve it from the Horrors of Slavery, and the desolation of a cruel and barbarous enemy—No Boys (under the idea of Waiters, or otherwise) or old Men, to be inlisted—if they are, they will be returned on the hands of the officer, without any allowance for any expence he may be at.[9]

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9. The following note, preceded by the hand pointer, is entered at this point in the Varick Transcripts of the General Orders: "The Original Orders from Novr. 10th to Jany 12th 1777 inclusive, are missing." The General Orders were copied from the originals in 1781 and the transcript certified by Alexander Scammell, then Adjutant General of the Continental Army.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, January 13, 1777.[6]

Parole Newtown. Countersign Trenton.

Till an Adjutant General is appointed, the duty of that office will be discharged by Col Weedon,[7] who is obliging enough to undertake it, Pro-Tempore. He is to be regarded and obeyed as such.

All the men who came up with Genl. Stephen,[8] belonging to the different Corps, either at this place, or Chatham, are immediately to join their respective regiments.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, January 14, 1777.

Parole Stirling. Countersign Livingston.

Major John Clarke is appointed Aide-De-Camp to Genl. Greene, in the room of Major William Livingston appointed Lieutenant Colonel in Col Webb's Regiment—He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Serjt. Prentice is appointed Captain of the Provost 'till further orders.

For the future, the Brigade Majors will attend at Head Quarters, for General Orders, at 12 o'Clock; General Returns of Brigades to be given in to the Adjutant General immediately.

In future one waggon with four horses, or four oxen, and not more, will be allowed to 80 Men, and in proportion for a greater, or less number; and forage for four Saddle Horses to a Regiment, arranged as follows: Colonel, one; Major, one;

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6. See General Orders, Nov. 10, 1776, *ante*.

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7. Col. George Weedon, of the Third Virginia Regiment. The adjutant generalcy was vacant by reason of Col. Joseph Reed's resignation. Weedon became a brigadier general in February, 1777, and resigned in June, 1783.

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8. Brig. Gen. Adam Stephen.

Quarter Master and Adjutant, one to both; Surgeon, one. The Commanders of Brigades and Regiments are to take care that no persons, in their respective Corps, except such as are above-mentioned, presume to keep Horses at the public expence.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 15, 1777.

Parole —. Countersign —.

Brigadiers, and Colonels commanding Brigades, are directed to order fatigue parties from their respective Corps, for the purpose of cutting, and cording Wood: The Quarter Masters will order Waggons allotted to their Brigades, to bring it in, and will see it equally distributed amongst the troops of their brigade. This is intended to prevent the burning of fence-rails, which the General positively forbids.

Notwithstanding repeated Orders for all Horses, Plunder &c. taken from the Enemy to be delivered to the Quarter MasterGeneral, who was directed to accompt with the Soldiery for them; the General understands, that some individuals are so lost to obedience, as to hold up and conceal, from the rest of the Army several valuable Horses, for their own private emolument taken in the Action of the 3rd. Instant at Princeton, and on the march from thence;—He therefore strictly orders all such persons, to bring in any Horses, or other Plunder they may have in their possession, and deliver it to the Quarter Master General, for the good of the whole; as they may depend on examples being made of those, who presume

a contrary Conduct, so prejudicial to the service.

One orderly Serjeant and two Sentinels to be furnished Governor Livingston from the main Guard.

Reports of Guards to be made to the Adjutant Genl. every morning after Guard mounting, 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 16, 1777.

Parole Amboy. Countersign Brunswick.

General Court Martial to sit to morrow at 9 o'Clock, for the trial of Capt. Fister[37] and Lieut. Rallwaggon,[38] of the German Battalion. Col. Stricker[39] and such officers of his Regiment, as can give information of the above Gentlemen's Conduct, for which they were confined, will attend the Court, for that purpose.

The Captain of the Provost is ordered to warn [sic] one Serjeant, and 25 Privates, as his guard. Prisoners confined for capital offences will hereafter be committed to his charge, and be by him reported.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, January 17, 1777.

Parole Windsor. Countersign Winchester.

A Court of inquiry to sit to morrow, at 9 o'Clock to examine into a Complaint lodged by Serjt. Davis, William Davis, and one Gallakin, all of Capt. Leir's[48] Company, against Major Procter,[49] Capt. Lang,[50] and Lieut. Turnbull[51] of the Artillery: All Evidences to attend, and facts as they appear, to be reported.

The Out-Guards are strictly forbid allowing any Soldiers to pass them, but such as have regular discharges from their commanding officer: This the officers of the different Regiments

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37. Capt. Henry Fister. He was dismissed on Apr. 7, 1777.

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38. Lieut. Frederick Rowlwagen. He was cashiered on Apr. 15, 1777.

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39. Lieut. Col. George Stricker.

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48. Captain Leirs is difficult to identify.

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49. Maj. Thomas Procter, of the Pennsylvania Artillery, He was made colonel of the Fourth Continental Artillery on February 5; resigned Apr. 18, 1781.

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50. Capt. James Lang, of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment.

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51. Lieut. Charles Turnbull, of Procter's artillery. He was captain-lieutenant of the Fourth Continental Artillery on March 3; taken prisoner at Bound Brook, N.J., April 13; made captain (while a prisoner) June 16, 1777; exchanged in April, 1780; served to September, 1783.

will attend to.

Lieut. Isaac Budd Dunn is appointed Brigade Major to Genl. St. Clair, and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 20, 1777.

Parole —. Countersign —.

Each Brigadier is to appoint [designate] a Brigade Parade, as central to his Brigade, as circumstances of Ground will permit; and each Colonel, or commanding Officer of a regiment is to fix under the same circumstances, a regimental parade, as convenient to the regiment, and the Brigade Parade, as possible.

An Alarm will be communicated by the discharge of *three* Field Pieces (which the commanding officer of the Artillery is to keep always in readiness) Upon the fire of these guns, the Drums of different Regiments are immediately to beat *To Arms* , and the regiments formed, and marched to the Brigade Parade, as speedily as possible, after which, if circumstances will admit of it, the Brigadiers (those at Morristown) are to repair to the Commander in Chief, for Orders, otherwise to send for orders.

Upon the Alarm Guns being fired at Morristown, the troops at Chatham, and other posts, are immediately to

assemble at their respective General Parades, and if the Alarm is first received at any of those posts, it is to be communicated by Alarm Guns, and Expresses as fast as possible to Head Quarters.

George Johnston Esqr. is appointed Aide-De-Camp to the Commander in Chief, and is to be regarded and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 21, 1777.

Parole —. Countersign —.

The General is very sorry to find, that the late General Orders, allowing the Plunder taken from the enemy to be divided for the benefit of the party that took it, has been so mistaken by some, and abused by others; This indulgence was granted to scouting parties only, as a reward for the extraordinary fatigues, hardship, and danger they were exposed to upon those parties—The General never meant, nor had any Idea, that any of our own, or Enemy's Stores, found at any evacuated post, were to be considered as the property of those that first marched in, neither did he mean that any of the public Stores, discovered by any of the scouting parties, should be appropriated to their use, unless they found the enemy in actual possession, and dispossest them; Plunder taken under such circumstances, either by Militia or Continental Troops, to be reported by the commanding Officer of the party to some of the Continental, or Provincial Generals, who are directed to have all the provisions, and military stores so taken, appraised by the Commissary and Quarter Master Generals, or their Deputies, and the party paid the value thereof: Such Articles as are

taken, not necessary for the use of the Army, to be sold at Public Vendue, under the direction of the Quarter Master General or some of his Deputies, for the benefit of the party also—The General prohibits both in Militia and Continental Troops, in the most positive terms, the infamous practice of plundering the Inhabitants, under the specious pretence of their being Tories—Let the persons who are known to be enemies to their Country, be seized and confin'd, and their Property disposed of, as the Law of the State directs—It is our business to give protection, and support, to the poor, distressed Inhabitants; not to multiply and increase their calamities. After the publication of this order, any officer, either *Militia* or *Continental* , found attempting to conceal the public Stores; plundering the Inhabitants under the notion of their being Tories, or venduing of Plunder taken from the Enemy, in any other manner than these Orders direct, may expect to be punished in the severest manner; and be obliged to account for every thing taken, or sold.

The Complaint lodged by Serjt. Davis, William Davis and others, against Major Proctor, Capt. Lang and Lieut. Turn-bull is found by a Court of inquiry to be frivilous and without foundation; on the other hand it appears that those Gentlemen were only doing the duty of good officers, for which they are to be commended.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 22, 1777.

Parole New York. Countersign Kingsbridge.

Genl. Cadwallader's Brigade are to hold themselves in readiness to march at 9 o'Clock; as Capt. Morris's Troop of Light Horse[86] also are.

86. Capt. Samuel Morris's troop of Philadelphia Light Horse.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 23, 1777.

Parole Colchester. Countersign Dumfries.

Major Proctor is directed to inspect and arrange the Artillery, in such manner as he shall think best, for the defence of this place, taking care to have such repairs immediately made, as may be wanting, with horses allotted to each piece, and all necessary harness ready.

The Brigadiers, and Colonels commanding Brigades, to make Returns of their men, to morrow morning.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, January 28, 1777.

Parole Princeton. Countersign Chatham.

Commanding Officers of Regiments, to order, Regimental Courts Martial, for the trial of such prisoners as belong to them, now confined in the Provost Guard, that do not come under the consideration of a General Court Martial.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, January 29, 1777.

Parole Inverness. Countersign Kendal.

Capt. Josiah Harmar's Company of Foot, in the 2nd. Pennsylvania Battalion, to join Major Proctor's Regt. of Artillery, and be by him returned.

The Quarter Master General is directed to engage Waggoners, from among the Inhabitants, and not to employ Soldiers in that service longer than such persons can be got.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, January 30, 1777.

Parole Quebec. Countersign Raway.

The Commissary General, and his Assistants in every department of the Army, are to be particularly careful of the Hides and Tallow—

The commanding Officers of the regiments and corps lately come in, are to make themselves acquainted with the General Orders, which have been issued for the Government of the Army at this place, and to attend to them, particularly those of the 20th. Instant, respecting the assignment of parades, and assembling the troops in case of alarms—Such Corps as have not already been furnished with those Orders, may get them by applying to the Adjutant General.

The Commissary of Stores is desired to make a Return of the Arms, Ammunition &c. now in his care, at this place; this to be done as soon as possible.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 1, 1777.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General positively forbids all Recruiting Officers whatever, giving a greater bounty for men, or making them any other promises, than what is particularly mentioned in the Resolve of Congress for that service; nor does he admit of officers inlisting men out of one State, to serve in another, unless they are of the Additional Battalions, the Congress's own Regt., or the Train of Artillery, without special Orders issued for that purpose; great inconvenience and injustice arising therefrom, and necessary to be prevented.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 3, 1777.

Parole Vienna. Countersign Wilmington.

Any officers, or soldiers of the American Army, who are possessed of Bonds, or other papers, belonging to Mr. Stockden,[67] are strictly ordered to deliver them to the Adjutant General at Head-Quarters.

General Returns of Brigades and Regiments to be given in to morrow, 9 o'clock.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 4, 1777.

Parole Stanton. Countersign Pittsburgh.

The Hon'ble The Governor and Assembly

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67. Richard Stockton, of New Jersey.

of New Jersey, having directed Thursday the 6th. day of this Month, to be observed as a Day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer, by the Inhabitants of the State—The General desires the same may be observed by the army.

The Quarter Master General will, in future, deliver the following Rations of Provender for the horses employed in the service—viz:

For Light Horse, 16 lbs. of Hay, and 10 Quarts of Oats, or 61/2 Q'ts. of Indian Corn, or other Grain in lieu thereof.

For Officer's Horses belonging to the Foot, who are authorised to draw provender—14 lbs Hay and 6 quarts of Oats, or 4 Q'ts of Indian Corn, or other Grain in lieu thereof.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 5, 1777.

Parole Lewis. Countersign Barclay.

The Fast day directed in Yesterday's General Orders was a mistake, it being ordered by the Governor and Assembly of this State, to be kept the 6th. of March, not the 6th. of this Month; which the Army is to take notice of.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 6, 1777.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The General is informed, that many frauds and abuses have been committed of late by sundry Soldiers, who after inlisting in one Regiment, and receiving the Bounty allowed by Congress,

have deserted, inlisted in others, and received new Bounties, for prevention of such unjust, and infamous practices, commands and strictly enjoins all officers of the Continental Army, to use their utmost endeavours to detect those who shall be guilty of such offences, and them having apprehended, they cause to be forthwith tried by a General Court Martial, that they may be dealt with according to their crimes.

The General thinks proper to declare that this offence is of the most enormous and flagrant nature, and not admitting of the least palliation or excuse; whosoever are convicted thereof, and sentenced to die, may consider their execution certain and inevitable.

That such impositions may be less practicable every Officer engaged in the Recruiting Service, is required to have a piece of blue, red or yellow Ribband or Tape, fixed in the Hat of each soldier recruited, at the time of enlistment; which he shall constantly wear, under pain of receiving 39 Lashes; 'till the Regiment, or Corps to which he belongs is assembled and joins the army.[10]

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 8, 1777.

Parole Alexandria. Countersign Allentown.

The Horses belonging to the Artillery are not to be used under any pretence whatsoever, but the purpose for which they are designed; but are to be held in such readiness, as to move in fifteen Minutes if required. Any officer or soldier, using them

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10. On February 6 Washington wrote short notes to Morris, Clymer, and Wharton, the committee of Congress at Philadelphia, and to the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania, requesting funds to meet recruiting expenses of various regiments. These notes are in the *Washington Papers*.

contrary to this order will be severely punished.—The commanding Officer of Artillery is to take care that their horses Shoes are kept in good order, and fit for use.—The Waggon Masters are to pay particular attention in seeing that their horses are always shod and fit for use.

The commanding Officers of Regiments and Corps are to see that their Men's Arms and Ammunition are in good order; and that they are properly supplied with the latter, which is not to be used, but against the enemy; under the severest penalty.

All the duties, except the General's Guard, to go by detail from the Regiments and corps stationed in and near the town. The different Guards to parade together every morning at 9 o'clock, near the Liberty Pole.—The officers of the day, with an Orderly Sergeant, to attend Guard Mounting; see them properly divided, and march for their different stations.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 9, 1777.

Parole Burlington. Countersign Bedford.

The General Court Martial held at Chatham, the 8th. Inst: whereof Brigadier General St. Clair was President, for the trial of Col Mordecai Buckner, accused of “Shamefully Misbehaving before the Enemy, in the Action of the 23rd. of Jan'y last,” And of “Quitting his post and party in time of

engagement," have after mature consideration, sentenced the said Col Mordecai Buckner, to be cashiered, and declared incapable of any military office, in the service of the United States.

The General and Commander in Chief approves the sentence, and orders the said Col Mordecai Buckner,

forthwith to depart the American Army.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 11, 1777.

Parole Dorchester. Countersign Durham.

The exceeding difficulty there is in procuring Spiritous Liquor, with the exorbitant prices now asked for that Article, renders it absolutely necessary to stop serving it out to the troops in a general way, 'till supplies can be laid in upon more easy and better terms: The Commissary General is therefore directed to issue none, except it be to fatigue parties, scouting parties, or to such troops as are necessarily employed in any extraordinary piece of duty, 'till further orders.

The Court Martial whereof Genl. St. Clair was President is dissolved.

A General Court Martial to sit to morrow, 10 o'Clock, at Morristown; the members of the Court are desired to be punctual as to the time of meeting, that no delay may attend the business for which they are summon'd.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 12, 1777.

Parole Effingham. Countersign Essex.

The Adjutants of Regiments will in future be more punctual in sending their men to the General Parade that are for duty; As all the Guards may be relieved at the appointed hour of

nine o'clock; a neglect of this sort will not be hereafter overlooked.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 13, 1777.

Parole Falkland. Countersign Fairfield.

The inconveniency arising from drafting Drivers for the Waggons and Artillery out of the Continental Troops, induces the Commander in Chief to direct the Quarter Master General, or his Deputies, to engage Waggoners, and Drivers, for the Artillery, from the Inhabitants; and all persons so engaged, or as Artificers, are, during the time of their engagement to be deemed in actual service, and excused from duty in the Militia.[68]

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 15, 1777.

Parole Ireland. Countersign Jersey.

As the Commander in Chief is extremely desirous that the Small-Pox should not spread among the Soldiery, it is hoped no persons will presume, on any account whatever, to inoculate without first obtaining leave.

Mr Robert Freeman is appointed Pay Master to the 9th. Virginia Regiment, and is to take upon him that office.

Serjt. Snagg is appointed Provost Marshal in the room of Serjt. Prentice, resigned.

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68. On February 13 Washington also wrote to Morris, Clymer, and Walton that the military chest was exhausted and that he needed $4,000 for the bounty and subsistence of recruits raised in the lower part of New Jersey by Lieut. Col. David Brearley, of the Fourth New Jersey Regiment. These letters are in the *Washington Papers*.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 19 1777.

Parole New-Castle. Countersign Newark.

The frequent complaints made from the different divisions of the Army, of *Neglect* and *Abuse* in the Commissaries department, induce the Commander in Chief to call on the Commissary General, and request of him, to take such measures as will in future prevent the like Complaints. The Quarter Master General is directed to pay particular attention to the public's horses, and not allow any to be used, but such as he employs himself; or such as are directed by an Order from the Adjutant General.

General Returns to be made of all the Troops, Continental and Militia, in and about Morristown—They are to be under the immediate Command of Brigdr. Genl. St Clair, to whom the Returns will be given without delay, by the commanding Officers of each Corps, who will know of him what is to be done in cases of alarm.

John Walker Esqr. is appointed an extra Aide-De-Camp, to the Commander in Chief, and is to be considered and respected as such by the Army.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 21 1777.

Parole Rochester. Countersign Romney.

John Porter field, Serjt. in Capt. Bayard's[40] Company, in the 3rd. Pennsylvania Battalion, tried by a General Court Martial, whereof Lt. Col. Hendricks[41] was President, is found guilty of *Desertion* , and sentenced to be *Shot* to death.

The General approves the Judgment of the Court, but respites the execution of the sentence for one week.

Serjt. William Roberts, of Capt. Dirks[42] Company, in the 9th. Pennsylvania Battalion, tried by the same Court Martial, is found guilty of *Desertion* , and sentenced to be reduced to the Ranks and whipped 100 lashes.

John Ford, William Callahan, William Wood, John Lemon, Robert Cunningham, and Charles McClain, all of Capt. Bayard's Company, in the 3rd. Pennsa. Battalion; James Jarvis and Peter Digman, of Capt. Dirk's Company, in the 9th. Pennsa. Battalion; John Welch, Peterster Ogan, John Conway, and Daniel McCressin, of Capt. Bowen's[43] Company, in the 9th. Pennsa. Battalion;

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40. Capt. Stephen Bayard. He was promoted to major in the Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment in March, 1777.

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41. Lieut. Col. James Hendricks, of the Sixth Virginia Regiment. He was made colonel of the First Virginia Regiment in September, 1777, and served to February, 1778.

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42. Capt. Jacob Gerhard Dirks.

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43. Capt. Thomas Bartholomew Bowen.

All tried by the same General Court Martial, are each of them found guilty of *Desertion* , and sentenced each to be whipped 50 lashes.

The General approves the Sentences on each of the above prisoners, and orders it to be executed immediately, and the men then to join the detachment under Lt. Thomas[44] of the 11th. Pennsylvania Battalion.

The Adjutants of the different Regiments are to wait on Isaac B. Dunn[45] Esqr. for Brigade Orders; he will be found at Genl St. Clair's quarters.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 22, 1777.

Parole Suffolk. Countersign Sussex.

The Soldiers of this Army are to be informed that all the Ferries over Delaware, and the North River, have strict Orders to put none of them that have not a regular Discharge, or Pass across, but to apprehend, and send back to the Corps they belong to as Deserters, all such as shall attempt it, contrary to this order.

Col Greasen's[46] Regt. of Militia from Northampton County (Pennsylvania) to join Genl. St. Clairs Brigade.

All Returns for Cloathing to be given in to the Comanding Officers of Regiments, who will sign them before they are brought to the Adjutant General.

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44. Lieut. William Thomas. He resigned on April 9.

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45. Capt. Isaac Budd Dunn, of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment. He was major and aide-de-camp to General St. Clair from May, 1781, to close of the war.

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46. Col. Henry Geiger, of the First Battalion of Northampton, Pa., militia.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 24, 1777.

Parole Virginia. Countersign Venice.

The troops of Genl St. Clair's Brigade are, as soon as the weather will permit, to be drawn together and quartered as near this town, as possible: All the Recruits of Col. Ogden's[72] Regiment, now quartered at Troy, and elsewhere, to be immediately called together, armed and accoutred; they are to join Genl. St Clair's Brigade, and to be quartered with them. The strictest Attention must be paid by the officers, to the Arms and Ammunition belonging to their different Corps, to see them frequently examined, and kept in good Order, for Action.—All Recruits raised by Capts. Morrison[73] and Flahaven[74] to join Col Ogden's Regt. 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, February 27, 1777.

Parole Burlington. Countersign Bedford.

The officers are desired to make Returns of any Rope-Makers, they may have in their respective Corps.

The execution of Serjt. Porterfield is suspended by the General's Orders, 'till Friday the 14th. of March.

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72. Col. Matthias Ogden, of the First New Jersey Regiment. He had been wounded at Quebec Dec. 31, 1775; was taken prisoner at Elizabethtown, N.J., in October, 1780; exchanged in April, 1781.

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73. Capt. Isaac Morrison, of the First New Jersey Regiment. He was wounded at Germantown, Pa., in October and did not rejoin the regiment.

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74. Capt. John Flahaven, of the First New Jersey Regiment. He was taken prisoner in April, 1777; resigned in January, 1779.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 1, 1777.

Parole Dorchester. Countersign Derby.

Alexander Hamilton Esqr. is appointed aide-de-camp to the Commander in Chief, and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

Isaac Budd Dunn Esqr. will do the duty of Adjutant General, Pro Tempore, and to be attended to accordingly.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 12, 1777.

Parole Detroit. Countersign Ontario.

Richard Kidder Meade Esqr. appointed Aide-De-Camp to the Commander in Chief, and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 14, 1777.

Parole Philadelphia. Countersign Chester.

By order of His Excellency, the execution of Serjt Porterfield is suspended 'till Friday the 21st. Instant.

GENERAL ORDERS

Headquarters, Morris Town, March 16, 1777.

Parole Frankfort. Countersign Kensington.

Lt. Hafnagle[24] is appointed Captn. in the 8th Pennsa. Regt. vice Capt Myers[25] resigned—he is to be obeyed accordingly.

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24. Capt. Michael Hufnagel. He had been adjutant of the First Continental Infantry.

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25. Capt. Eleazar Myers.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 19, 1777.

Parole Brunswick. Countersign Amboy.

Major William McWilliams is appointed an Aide-De-Camp to Major Genl Lord Stirling, and is to be obeyed and respected as such.

The Non-commissioned officers and soldiers of Col: Dayton's Regt. whose Arms, and Accoutrements are in repair, are, upon a settlement, to have Credit in their accounts, for the sums stopped from them respectively, for said arms &c—Such of the Arms as have been damaged, and can be repaired, are likewise to be accounted for, with them, making a reasonable allowance for the Repair;—With this the men are to be made acquainted, as soon as possible.

The commanding Officer of the Regiment will, on application, receive a Warrant on the Pay-Master Genl. for the sum necessary—the Arms will then be the property of the public, for which the Colonel, or commanding Officer must be answerable; And he will be careful to take Receipts from the Captains, or Officers commanding Companies, which will so far discharge him; it will be their duty to have them preserved and kept in good order—If any Arms are lost or damaged thro' carelessness of the Soldiers, the loss or damage must be made good by the individual—As the whole Regiment have not reinlisted, the supernumerary Arms and

Accoutrements to be delivered to the Commissary of Military Stores, who will give a Receipt for the same.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 21, 1777.

Parole Effingham. Countersign Falkland.

The execution of Serjt. Porterfield is stopt 'till Friday the 28th. Instant.

The Colonels, and Commanding Officers, of all the Continental Battalions at present in the Jerseys, are immediately to make out their respective Abstracts up to the first of this Month giving Credit in them, for all sums of money received by them respectively on account, and deliver them to the Pay Master General—No excuse will be admitted for the least delay.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 22, 1777.

Parole Georgia. Countersign Hallifax.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to make the following promotions.—viz:

Major John Green of the 1st. Virginia Battalion to be Lieutenant ant Colonel of the same, vacant by the death of Lt Col. Eppes.[49] Capt. Robert Ballard of the same to be the Major of the same, vacant by the promotion of Lt Col Green.

Lieut. Col Alexander Spotswood of the 2nd. Virginia Battn. to be Colonel of the same, vacant by the resignation of Col. Woodford[50] —Major Richard Parker of the 6th. to be Lieut. Colonel,

49. Lieut. Col. Francis Eppes. He was killed in the Battle of Long Island, N.Y.

50. Col. William Woodford. He had been promoted to brigadier general, Continental Army, on February 21; wounded at Brandywine, Pa., on September 11; taken prisoner at Charleston, S.C., in May, 1780; died in captivity on November 13 of that year.

vacant by the promotion of Col. Spotswood. Capt. Morgan Alexander of the 2nd. to be the Major, vacant by the promotion of Lt Col Markham[51] to the 8th.

Lt Col Thomas Marshall of the 3rd Virginia Battalion to command the same, vacant by the promotion of Brigadier Weedon.[52]

Capt. George Gibson of the 1st. Virginia Battalion, to be Major of the 4th., vacant by the promotion of Lt Col Sayres[53] to the 9th.

Lt Col Alexander McClenachan of the 7th. Virginia Battalion to be Colonel of that Battalion, vacant by the removal of Col Crawford:[54] Major William Neilson of the same to be Lieutenant Colonel, vacant by the promotion of Col McClenachan: Capt. William Davies of the 1st. to be Major, vacant by the promotion of Lt. Col Neilson.

Lt Col Bowman[55] of the 8th. Virginia Battalion to be Colonel of the same, by promotion of Brigadier Muhlenberg, and Major John Markham of the 2nd. to be Lieutenant Colonel, vacant by promotion of Col Bowman.

Lt. Col George Matthews of the 9th. Virginia Battalion to be Colonel of the same, vacant by the death of Col Fleming[56] and Major John Sayres of the 4th. to be Lieut. Colonel, vacant by the promotion of Col Mathews.

As it is not possible, from the present dispersed state of the Virginia Officers, many of whom are necessarily absent from the Army, and may have a claim for promotion, but are not taken notice of in the foregoing arrangement, it is to be observed that no Conclusion must be drawn from this order in prejudice of such Gentlemen. When circumstances will permit the residue of the vacancies will be

filled up, and the Rank of all the officers in that Line settled on just and reasonable principles; regard being had to their seniority, and the good of the service.

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51. Lieut. Col. John Markham. He was cashiered Oct. 26, 1777.

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52. Brig. Gen. George Weedon.

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53. Lieut. Col. John Sayres. He was killed at Germantown, Pa.

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54. Maj. William Crawford.

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55. Lieut. Col. Abraham Bowman. He resigned in December.

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56. Col. Thomas Fleming. He had died Jan. 30, 1777.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 26, 1777.

Parole Hunterdon. Countersign Sussex.

Various opinions prevailing in the 9th. Virginia Battalion, respecting the Rank of several of the officers in it, Major Genl. Stephen will inquire into their respective claims, and state their Ranks, agreeable to justice and seniority; of which he will make report.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 27, 1777.

Parole Shepherd's-Town. Countersign Gates.

The General, having directed, that all Surgeons, who have the superintendency of Military Hospitals, should send all Soldiers whom they discharge, under the care of proper officers, to join their respective regiments, making report to the Commanding Officer of each regiment of the number of men so discharged, belonging to his Corps; desires that the commanding officer of the department, nearest any Hospital, from which they are to be dismissed, will, upon application of the Surgeons

thereof, furnish an officer, or officers, for the occasion, proportioned to the number of men to be comitted to his, or their care, and when any number of men are sent to any of the Military Hospitals

to be inoculated, an officer, or officers to be sent with them, from the respective Corps to which they belong, that proper care may be taken of them, whilst under inoculation.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 28, 1777.

Parole Lancaster. Countersign York.

The Execution of Serjt. Porterfield is suspended, by order of the Commander in Chief, 'till Friday the 4th of April.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, March 31, 1777.

Parole Reading. Countersign Bethlehem.

The General Court Martial held at Woodbridge the 28th. Inst., whereof Col. Martin[10] was President, for the trial of Capt. Will: Work of the 12th. Pennsylvania Regt. accused of “Misbehaviour and Cowardice, in an Action with the Enemy, on Carman's hill, near Bonum-Town, on the 8th. Instant”—The Court after mature consideration, are of opinion that the Prisoner is Guilty, and sentence the said Capt. Work to be *cashiered* , and dismissed the service, as a person unfit for a military Command.

His Excellency approves the sentence, and orders the said Capt. Work forthwith to depart the Camp.

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10. Col. Ephraim Martin, of the Fourth New Jersey Regiment.

Capt. Henry Fister of the German Battalion, tried by the same General Court Martial for “Quitting his Company and Regiment, being absent from both a fortnight, without leave from his commanding officer”—After mature consideration, the Court are of opinion, the said Capt. Fister is Guilty; and sentence him to be dismissed the service.

His Excellency the Commander in Chief approves the sentence.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to make the following promotions in the Regiment of Cavalry from Virginia. Viz

Theodorick Bland Esqr., Major, Comdt. to be Colonel thereof. Capt. Benjamin Temple of the 2nd. Troop is appointed the Lt. Col. Capt. John Jameson of the 3rd. Troop is appointed the Major. Lieut. Cuth. Harrison of the 2nd. Troop is appointed Captain of the same. Lieut. Alexander S. Dandridge of the 4th. is appointed Captain of the 3rd. Lieut. John Belfield of the 5th. is appointed Captain of the 6th; vacant by the resignation of Capt. Nelson.[11] Cornet William Lindsay of the 3rd. Troop is appointed Lieutenant of the same. Cornet William Watts of the 4th. is appointed Lieut. of the same. Cornet Henry Peyton of the 5th is appointed Lieutenant of the same. Cornet Henry Clements of the 6th. is appointed Lieut. of the second. Mr. Cole Diggs, Cadet, is appointed Cornet of the 3rd. Troop. Mr. Robert Yauncey, Cadet, is appointed Cornet of the 4th. Troop.

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11. Capt. John Nelson. He had resigned on February 12; was major of a Virginia State regiment from 1779 to 1781.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, April 3, 1777.

Parole New Castle. Countersign Dover.

It having been observed that the Waggoners, and those who have the care of the public Horses, use them very cruelly, by riding them extremely hard upon all occasions, it is therefore recommended to the Quarter-Masters, and Waggon-Masters, to give strict orders against such practices in future, which, if continued after such notice is given, the offenders shall be liable to immediate punishment, by order of any commissioned Officer who happens to see them.

The Execution of Serjt. Porter field is suspended (by Order of His Excellency General Washington) 'till Friday the 11th Inst.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 4, 1777.

Parole Princeton. Countersign Putnam.

The detachments, commanded by Capts. O'Hara,[38] Bicker,[39] Talbot[40] and Selin,[41] to hold themselves in readiness (with two days provision) to march to morrow morning. They will receive their orders from Major Genl. St. Clair.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 5, 1777.

Parole Cambridge. Countersign Boston.

A General Court Martial to sit to morrow at 9 O'Clock, for the trial of Lieut. Carnes[42] of Col: Martins Regt., and such other prisoners. as may be brought before them. All Evidences to attend.

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38. Capt. Henry O'Hara, of the Second Canadian Regiment.

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39. Capt. Victor(?) Bicker, of a New York regiment.

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40. Capt. Jeremiah Talbot, of the Seventh Pennsylvania Regiment.

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41. Capt. Anthony Selin, of the Second Canadian Regiment.

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42. Lieut. Zophar Carnes, of the Fourth New Jersey Regiment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 7, 1777.

Parole Elizabeth-Town. Countersign Westfield.

John Burke of Capt Christy's[56] Company of the 3rd Pennsyl: Battalion, tried by a General Court Martial of which Major Harmar[57] was President, is found guilty *of being drunk on his post* , and is sentenced to receive one hundred lashes for said offence.

The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed forthwith.

Lieut. Carnes of Capt. Wade's[58] Company, in Col Martin's Regt. tried by the same Court Martial on the charge of "Behaving unbecoming the Character of an Officer and a Gentleman, in converting to his own use the property—viz: A Horse and half Johannes,[59] belonging to one Baxter"; And also of "Disobedience of Orders"—The Court find the said Lieut. Carnes *Guilty* of the Charge against him, and sentence him to be cashiered—And the Court orders [him] to restore the Horse and Money to said Baxter; and to make good Baxter's Expences to the Amount of £5..—Proc: Money; and that so much money be stopped out of said Carnes's Pay, as to answer and make good the Judgment of the Court.

The General approves the sentence of the Court, and orders it to take place immediately.

[His Excellency the Commander in Chief, orders in the most pointed terms, that all the Officers of the 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9th Virginia Regiments, who are absent without leave in writing from himself or Major General Stephen, or are not upon any special Command, or not on the recruiting Service (the two last Cases by proper Authority) do immediately join their respective Corps, without the smallest Hesitation or delay.— Those who have obtained written furloughs, must not exceed the time allowed by them, a single hour; And those who have been sent upon particular Commands, or are employed in the recruiting Service, must pay the utmost attention to their Orders, as they will Answer the Contrary. The Officers of the other Virginia Regiments in Continental Service, must govern themselves strictly by these Orders as they apply. No Excuse can or will be admitted for Idleness or dissipation, at a time when their own Honor and their Country's Interest call them to the Field. His Excellency does not wish to convey these orders through the Channel of a Newspaper; but the difficulty, indeed impracticability, of transmitting them in time in any other way, renders it indispensably necessary.][60]

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56. Capt. James Chrystie.

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57. Maj. Josiah Harmar.

58. Capt. Noadiah Wade, of the Fourth New Jersey Regiment.

59. Johannes, a gold coin of Portugal, so called, it is thought, from having been first issued by King John. It was worth about $9; a half-johannes, or half-jo, was therefore worth about $4.50.

60. The orders within brackets were not published in Morristown, but were sent, with an explanatory note from Lieut. Col. George Johnston, to Alexander Purdie, publisher of the *Virginia Gazette* at Williamsburg, for publication in his paper.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 9, 1777.

Parole Dean. Countersign Adams.

Major Dunn being obliged to attend Major General St. Clair to Philadelphia, to which place he is called by Congress—Lt. Col. Conner will be obliging enough to discharge the duty of Adjutant General pro tempore. The Commander in Chief begs that Genl. St. Clair will accept his most sincere thanks, for superintending the duties of that office, of Adjutant General; and that Major Dunn will also accept his thanks for the faithful discharge of them, for some time past.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, April 10, 1777.

Parole St. Clair. Countersign Muhlenberg.

John Laurence Esqr. is appointed Judge Advocate, in the room of William Tudor Esqr. who has resigned.

The General desires that the Quarter MasterGeneral will immediately take measures to have the Camp cleared of every kind of garbage and filth with which it is at present incommoded.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 11, 1777.

Parole Amboy. Countersign Brunswick.

Brigadier Genl. Muhlenberg[97] will take the trouble of inquiring into the Rank, and Claims for promotion of the Subalterns of the 1st. 3rd. 4th. 5th. 6th. and 9th Virginia Battalions; determine the disputes, and make report; that no time may be lost in filling up the vacancies.

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97. Peter Muhlenberg.

The commanding Officers of detachments and parties, as they arrive, must make Returns to the Adjutant General without delay.

The commanding Officer of every Regiment and Corps, is to take especial care to prevent his men from straggling, and to see that every thing is in such order as to move at an hour's warning. All officers are to pay particular attention to this order, and not to absent themselves from camp. The Rolls to be called twice a day (Morning and Evening) regularly.

The commanding Officer of each Corps, is also to take care, that a parade, convenient to the quarters of his men, is fixed upon to repair to, for the purpose of calling over the rolls; at which the officers are regularly to attend, and see that none, but good and sufficient excuses are admitted for the non-attendance of the non-commissioned officers and privates.

At these Roll-Callings the state and condition of the men's Arms and Ammunition is to be accurately inspected into, and the soldiers made to account satisfactorily for any deficiency of the latter, or pay for it.

An Alarm will be announced by the firing of 3 Field Pieces, upon which each Corps in that division of the Army, in and near Morristown is first to assemble and form upon its own parade, and then march to a General-Parade to be shewn by the Adjutant General at Morristown, and there wait orders.—The other divisions of the Army are to assemble in such places, and in such manner as the General Officers respectively commanding, shall order and direct.

The General Parade to which the different Corps are to repair (after they have assembled and formed on their respective parades) is in the main street, from the Artillery Guard House, opposite the Meeting, to Magee's house.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 12, 1777.

Parole Kildair. Countersign Dublin.

All the troops in Morristown, except the Guards, are to attend divine worship to morrow morning at the second Bell; the officers commanding Corps, are to take especial care, that their men appear clean, and decent, and that they are to march in proper order to the place of worship.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 13, 1777.

Parole Boundbrook. Countersign Green.

William Wilcocks Esqr. is appointed Aide-De-Camp, to Major Genl. Lord Stirling, and to be obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 14, 1777.

Parole Carlisle. Countersign York.

The General Court Martial of which Major Harmar is President, is to sit tomorrow, at 9 o'clock, to try Lieut. Francis Costigan[27] of Col Ogden's Regt. and such other prisoners, as may be brought before them. All Evidences are to attend—Col. Biddle[28] will furnish the evidence against Lieut. Corstigan.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 15, 1777.

Parole Rutledge. Countersign Charlestown.

Serjt. Keener[29] of the 11th. Pennsyl: Battn. and Serjt. Berns[30] of the 10th. tried at a General Court Martial, held at Samptown, of which Col Shreve was president, on a charge of "Intending to desert."

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27. Lieutt Francis Costigan, of the First New Jersey Regiment.

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28. Col. Clement Biddle.

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29. Sergt. Barnet Kenny(?) (Keener).

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30. Sergt.-Maj. John Burns (Berns).

The Court find Serjt. Keener guilty of the above Crime, and sentence him to be reduced to the ranks, and receive 100 Lashes on his bare back— The Court acquit Serjt. Berns of the Charge against him.

John Neal, Soldier in Capt. Coates's[31] Company, and the 11th. Pennsyl: Regt. tried at the same Court Martial, is found guilty of "Deserting his post, being drunk, and suffering others to desert to the enemy "—The Court sentence him to suffer *Death* .

Lieut. Ralwaggon,[32] of the German Battalion, tried by the above Court Martial is found Guilty of "Making a great Noise among the Soldiers going to Trenton, contrary to General Orders"; and sentenced to be cashiered for the same.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to take place forthwith, except that against John Neal, the execution of which is to be suspended 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 17, 1777.

Parole Halifax. Countersign Trenton.

The Sentence of the General Court Martial whereof Major Harmar is President, against Lt. Costigan of the 1st. Jersey Battn. accused of "Behaving in a scandalous, and infamous manner, unbecoming an officer and a Gentleman, for pressing a Horse, the property of John Kidd Esqr. of Bucks County,

(Pennsylvania) appropriating him to his own use, and when required by Col Biddle D. Q. M. Genl., to deliver up the Horse, neglecting to comply therewith"— Whereby the said Lieut. Costigan is found *Guilty* , and ordered to be discharged

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31. Capt. John Coates. He waa a doctor who resided in Talbot County, Md. After being wounded in a skirmish, he resigned in October, 1777.

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32. Lieut. Frederick Rowlwagen.

from the service, and also, ordered to pay Mr. Kidd £20,,12,,6 Proc: money, is approved by his Excellency the Commander in Chief— The Money to be retained out of his pay.

The Quarter Masters, and Waggon Masters are to see that every thing within their department is put into readiness immediately for a Move; the horses to be shod without delay.

The fatigue party to parade in future at 6 o'clock in the morning, with one days provision ready dressed.

Complaint having been made by the Parade Adjutant, that officers commanding detachments, neglect to send their Complement of men for Guard and Fatigue; it is therefore positively ordered, that an Adjutant, or Officer acting as such, march the men of each detachment, to the General Parade, at the usual time of Guard Mounting, (half an hour after 8 o'Clock who is to answer for any deficiency in his part of the detail. The Officers commanding Corps will be made accountable for any future neglect of this kind.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 18, 1777.

Parole Georgia. Countersign Samptown.

All the Continental Arms, those in possession of the troops, as well as those in Store, to be marked immediately. Commanding Officers of Corps to see this Order put in execution—they will get the Brand by applying to the Commissary of Military stores.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 19, 1777.

Parole Brunswick. Countersign Victory.

Complaints have been made by a number of Farmers, and others in different parts of the Country, but especially on the roads between this place and Philadelphia, that the Waggoners, Light Horse, and others, belonging to the Continental Army, have, and do continue to take down the fences of their fields of grain, and grass-lanes, which at this season must be attended with consequences very prejudicial to the Community in general—It is therefore His Excellency the General's Orders, that no person belonging to the said Army, does on any pretence whatever take down any such fences, or leave open any bars, or gates, or ride, or travel thro' any such inclosures, unless a danger of falling into the hands of the enemy, renders it absolutely necessary, in all other cases they are to keep the high roads; as they will answer the contrary by being punished for a breach of orders.

All the troops in town (not on duty) to attend divine service to morrow, agreeable to the orders of the 12th. Instant.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 20, 1777.

Parole Greene. Countersign Knox.

The detachments from the 3rd. 4th. 10th and 11th Pennsylv. Regiments, now at this place, as also that of Hazen's, are to hold themselves in readiness to march, at an hours warning, with their Camp equipage and baggage—If any of the men belonging to those Corps are sick, and unable to march, proper persons must be left to take care of them, who are to see that they join the above detachments respectively, so soon as they are able.

Lieut. Col Butler's detachment of Connecticut Troops, are also to hold themselves in readiness to march at an hours warning.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, April 21, 1777.

Parole Franklin. Countersign Lee.

A fatigue party of an officer and twenty privates, to be employed to bury all the Offals in and about the Slaughter House, dead horses, dogs, or anykind of Carrion in and about the town; also to remove all the filth about the Goal—The Deputy Quarter Master General is desired, to be particularly attentive, to see this duty executed in the best manner, otherwise as the weather grows warm, the consequences may be fatal, as well to the Soldiery, as the Inhabitants.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, April 22, 1777.

Parole Armstrong. Countersign St. Clair.

The detachments of the 3rd. 4th. and 10th. Pennsylvania Regiments, are to form one Detachment, and be under the Command of Major Harmar[95] till their respective Regiments arrive. This detachment thus formed are to march for Boundbrook, by 6 o'clock to morrow morning, as is also the Eastern Detachment, under the Command of Col Zebulon Butler—The whole to receive their orders from Major Genl. Lincoln, when they arrive there.

The detachment of the 11th. Pennsylva. Regt. to march at the same time for Samtown, and join the other part of their regiment at that place, under the Command of Major Mentzges.[96]

Major Lamar[97] is to join his Regiment, and use his utmost endearours to have it completed to the establishment.

The whole of the above detachments to appear on the Grand Parade, at 6 o'Clock to morrow morning, and those ordered to Boundbrook to march off together.

The General Court Martial whereof Major Harmar was President is dissolved.

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95. Maj. Josiah Harmar, of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment. Later he was lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment and colonel of the First Pennsylvania Regiment.

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96. Maj. Francis Mentges, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment. Later he was lieutenant colonel of the Fifth Pennsvlvania Regiment; retired Jan. 1, 1783.

97. Maj. Marion Lamar, of the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment. He was killed at Paoli, Pa., Sept. 20, 1777.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 25, 1777.

Parole Corke. Countersign Dublin.

Colonels or commanding Officers of Corps must cause their regimental Pay-Masters to make up their Abstracts to the 1st. of this month, and order them to attend at the Pay Master General's, for the money—;Proper attention to the General Orders of this nature, issued on the 21st. of last month, would not only have removed the Complaints of the Soldiers, for want of their pay, too frequently made to the Commander in Chief, but would have saved them much trouble in settling their accounts for money drawn upon account—The most punctual obedience must be paid to this order. No excuse for delay can, or will be, admitted.

They are also directed to make a Return of their Surgeons and Mates, and to desire the Surgeons to make Returns of the Medicines, and instruments in their possession to the Director General at Head Quarters, on Monday next.

The Adjutant General will transmit Copies of these orders immediately, to all the Gentlemen concerned.

The Officer of the day in visiting the Guards is to be particularly attentive to see that the Guard Houses are clean and in good order, particularly the Provost-Guard, which is to be clean'd every day; the rooms where the prisoners are confined, as well as the Guard-room—The officer relieving a Guard is to see that the old-Guard have clean'd and swept the house before he relieves them.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, April 28, 1777.

Parole Georgia. Countersign Hartford.

Every Corps must immediately put their Arms in the best firing Order, and be completely furnished with Ammunition; the commanding Officers will see this done, as they will answer for the least neglect of this important duty—The Qr. Mr. Genl. to furnish them with Tents, and proper conveniencies for carrying them, that they may be ready to move with the troops, at the shortest notice.

The General laments the necessity he is laid under of repeating his Orders, by which Officers were forbid to ride about the Country, thus absenting themselves from their duty—If any sudden call for offensive or defensive measures should be made, during their absence, they will assuredly be brought to severe account.

The Major Generals will publish these Orders at their respective posts, for which purpose the Adjutant General will furnish them with copies.

The following Sentences of the General Court Martial held at Boundbrook, whereof Major Robinson[44] was President, are approved by the Commander in Chief—

Serjt. William McDonald of the 5th. Pennsylva. Battn. reduced.

Samuel Philips, Private of the 8th. Penn. Battn reprimanded on the public parade.

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44. Maj. Thomas Robinson, of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment. He was wounded at the Battle of Brandywine.

Henry Randall, Private of the 8th. Penn. Battn. acquitted and discharged from confinement.

Lieut. Simrall[45] of the 8th. Penn. Battn. for “Refusing to do duty”—Cashiered.

Ensign McKee[46] of the 8th. Penn. Batt. acquitted and discharged from confinement.

Samuel Haws, Private 5th. Penn. Battn to do duty as a Camp Colour-man 'till excused by his Colonel.

Michael McDonald, Private 5th. Penn. Battn. For “Leaving his post,” to receive 50 lashes.

Serjt. Elisha Reynolds of the 5th. Penn. Battn. for “Inlisting into two different Regiments”—Reduced to the ranks.

Serjt. William Preston of the Wyoming Rangers, for “Having made known the Watch-Word to a person not entitled to receive it,” to be reprimanded in the presence of all the troops at Boundbrook.

Thomas Pickett, Private of Capt. Ransom's[47] Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

Stephen Harding, Private of Capt. Durkee's[48] Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

William Davidson, Private of Capt. Durkee's Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

Nathaniel Williams, Private of Capt. Durkee's Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

Nathaniel Faye, Private of Capt. Durkee's Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

Richard Halstead, Private of Capt. Durkee's Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 15 lashes.

James Bagley, Private of Capt. Durkee's Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

Hulver Harding, Private of Capt. Durkee's Company, Wyoming Rangers, for “Desertion”—to receive 50 lashes.

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45. Lieut. Alexander Simrall.

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46. Ensign David McKee.

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47. Capt. Samuel Ransom.

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48. Capt. Robert Durkee. Both he and Captain Ransom were killed at Wyoming, Pa., July 3, 1778.

John McIntire, Private in the 5th. Penn. Batt. for “Threatning to desert to the Enemy”—to receive 100 lashes—

The Commander in Chief (taking into consideration the late distracted State of the 8th. Pennsyl. Battalion,[49] an inquiry into the cause of which he has directed to be made without loss of time) is pleased to suspend the execution of the Sentences of Alexander McKay, David Livinston, John Dilworth, John Edgar, Jacob Knight, John McClaugherry, William Roach, Daniel Clark, John Kirckendal, and Jacob Wilker—Privates of that Battalion, 'till the proceedings of the Court are reported to him.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 3, 1777.

Parole Wilmington. Countersign Newcastle.

Major Painter[29] is to superintend the Artificers, and Works, in and about Morristown, until further orders.

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49. Col. Eneas Mackay and Lieut. Col. George Wilson had died, and the command of the Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment was intrusted to Col. Daniel Brodhead, Mar. 12, 1777. Richard Butler became lieutenant colonel and Stephen Bayard major. This reorganization and the recent surprise and defeat of the regiment at Bound Brook, N.J., were the causes of its “distracted” state.

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29. Gamaliel(?) Painter, of Baldwin's Artillery Artificer regiment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 5, 1777.

Parole Bethlehem. Countersign Easton.

His Excellency the Commander in Chief directs, that the strictest attention, and obedience, be paid throughout the Army, to the following Resolutions of the Hon'ble the Continental Congress—viz—

Resolved. That there be one Physician and Surgeon General, for each seperate Army, who shall be subject to the controul of the Director General, and Deputy Director General, of the District wherein he acts— That his duty shall be to superintend the Regimental Surgeons and their Mates, and to see that they do their duty; to hear all complaints against the said regimental Surgeons and Mates, and

make report of them to the Director General, or in his absence to the Deputy Director General, or in their absence from the said Army to the commanding Officer thereof; that they may be brought to trial by Court Martial for misbehaviour; to receive from the Director General, or the Deputy Director General, a suitable number of large strong tents, beds, bedding, medicines and hospital stores, for such sick and wounded persons, as cannot be removed to the General Hospital with safety, or may be rendered fit for duty, in a few days; and shall also see that the sick and wounded, while under his care, are properly attended and dressed, and conveyed, when able, to the General Hospital, for which last purpose, he shall be supplied by the Director General, or Deputy Director, with a proper number of convenient waggons and drivers—That whenever any Regimental Surgeon, or Mate, shall be absent from his regiment without leave from the said Surgeon General, or the Commander in Chief of the Army,

where his duty lies, the said Surgeon General shall have power to remove such Surgeon, or Mate, and forthwith appoint another in his stead.

The Hon: the Congress having been pleased to appoint Doctor William Shippen Junr. “Director General of all the Military Hospitals erected and to be erected for the Armies of the United States” Doctor Walter Jones and Doctor Benjamin Rush, Physicians and Surgeons General of the Hospital, and Doctor John Cochran Physician and Surgeon General of the Army in the middle department—They are to be obeyed and respected as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 6, 1777.

Parole Chester. Countersign Derby.

The commanding Officers of Battalions, that furnish the Commander in Chief's Guard, are to not draw for the men thus furnished after they have left their respective Battalions, but are to give each man a Certificate of the day on which he was last paid; in order that the Captain of the Guard may be enabled to make out their Abstract properly.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 7, 1777.

Parole Newtown. Countersign Boundbrook.

His Excellency the Commander in Chief, upon considering the report of the Court of inquiry, held on the conduct of Capt. Bond and Lieut. Brackinridge,[43] both of the 4th. New Jersey Regt., respecting a charge brought against them by a certain Dennis McCarthy, thinks the accusation frivolous, and groundless; And that both those Gentlemen are to be considered as good officers, and friends

43. Capt. William Bond and Lieut. Samuel Brackenridge.

to their Country.

Nathan Rice and Everard Meade Esqrs. are appointed Aides-de-Camp to the Honble. Major Genl. Lincoln, and are to be obeyed and respected as such.

The following proceedings of a General Court Martial, held at Boundbrook, on May 2nd. Inst. whereof Col McClennahan[44] was President, are approved of by his Excellency the Commander in Chief—

Thomas Wood of the 8th. Pennsyl. Regt. to receive 50 lashes. Capt. Ransom of Wyoming accused of "Being drunk on his post"—The Court think he is Not Guilty of the charge.

Michael Lynch of the 10th. Pennsyl. Regt. to receive 100 lashes.

Lieut. Parrot[45] of the 8th. Virginia Regt. to be discharged from the service, and his pay stop'd from the time he left his detachment, until he did duty in his regiment again.

Dennis Ford of the 10th. Pennsyl. Regt. to receive 100 lashes.

Leonard Buck of the 5th. Pennsyl. Regt. to receive 25 lashes.

Levi Bateman of the 10th. Pennsyl. Regt. to suffer Death.

Thomas Greaton of the 10th. Virginia Regt. to receive 100 lashes.

Michael Gorman of the 10th. Pennsyl. Regt. not to be punished.

Capt. Hire[46] of the 8th. Virginia Regt. to be reprimanded by the commanding Officer of the Regiment, in presence of Lieut. Culp[47] and other officers of the regiment.

Lieut. Beeler[48] of the 8th Pennsyl. Regt. Not guilty.

James Davis of the 11th. Virginia Regt. Not guilty.

Griffiths Ford, no Evidence, therefore discharged.

James McDonald, Corporal in the 5th. Pennsyl. Regt. to be reduced to the Ranks, and receive 100 lashes.

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44. Col. Alexander McClanachan, of the Seventh Virginia Regiment.

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45. Lieut. Jacob Parrot.

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46. Capt. Abraham Hite. He was paymaster of the Eighth Virginia Regiment in January, 1779; taken prisoner at Charleston, S.C., in May, 1780; prisoner on parole to close of the war.

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47. Lieut. Daniel Culp. He resigned May 20, 1777.

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48. Lieut. James Beeler.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 8, 1777.

Parole New York. Countersign Albany.

As few vices are attended with more pernicious consequences, in civil life; so there are none more fatal in a military one, than that of Gaming ; which often brings disgrace and ruin upon officers, and injury and punishment upon the Soldiery: and reports prevailing, which, it is to be feared are too well founded, that this destructive vice has spread its baneful influence in the army, and, in a peculiar manner, to the prejudice of the recruiting Service,—The Commander in chief, in the most pointed and explicit terms, forbids All officers and soldiers, playing at cards, dice or at any games, except

those of Exercise , for diversion; it being impossible, if the practice be allowed, at all, to discriminate between innocent play, for amusement, and criminal gaming, for pecuniary and sordid purposes.

Officers, attentive to their duty, will find abundant employment, in training and disciplining their men—providing for them—and seeing that they appear neat, clean and soldier-like—Nor will any thing redound more to their honor—afford them more solid amusement—or better answer the end of their appointment, than to devote the vacant moments, they may have, to the study of Military authors.

The Commanding Officer of every corps is strictly enjoined to have this order frequently read, and strongly impressed upon the minds of those under his command. Any officer, or soldier, or other person belonging to, or following, the army, either in camp, in quarters, on the recruiting service, or elsewhere, presuming, under any pretence, to disobey this order, shall be tried by a General Court Martial.

The General Officers, in each division of the army,

are to pay the strictest attention to the due execution thereof.

The Adjutant General is to transmit copies of this order, to the different departments of the army: Also to cause the same to be immediately published in the Gazettes of each State, for the information of officers, dispersed on the recruiting service.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 10, 1777.

Parole Cambridge. Countersign Dublin.

It having been observed, notwithstanding former orders to the contrary, that some officers make a practice of riding the Continental horses, as well as those, belonging to the inhabit, ants, in the neighbourhood, of the army:—The Commander in Chief positively declares, that, if any officer, in future, will dare to presume, to ride any horses, either public, or private, property, without leave first obtained from the proper officer, if a public horse; or from the owner, if private property, shall immediately be brought to trial, by a General Court Martial.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, May 11, 1777.

Parole Essex. Countersign Falmouth.

The 3rd., 7th., 11th. and 15th Virginia Regts. are to compose a Brigade, under the command of Brigadier Genl. Woodford: And the 4th., 8th., 12th., and 16th Virginia Regts., are to compose another, under the command of Brigadier Genl. Scott.

Benjamin Day Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major, to Genl Woodford, and Samuel Shaw Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major, to Brigadier Genl. Knox; both to be respected and obeyed as such.

A General Court Martial to sit, to morrow, at 9 o'clock, to try such prisoners, as shall be brought before them—All Evidences to attend.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head–Quarters, Morristown, May 13, 1777.

Parole Ireland. Countersign London.

William Johnson Esqr., formerly Brigade Major to Genl. Lewis, is appointed to that duty, in Brigadier Genl. Scott's Brigade; and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head–Quarters, Morristown, May 14, 1777.

Parole Monmouth. Countersign Norfolk.

The Quarter Master General, is to apply to the Adjutant General, for a fatigue party, to repair the road from hence, to Pluck–'emin, which, it is said, to be almost impossible in some places.

He is also, to have a Guard–house, in the upper Redoubt, on the hill adjoining this place, erected with dispatch, and sufficient to contain 30 Men—This building to be slight, and attended with little expence.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve the following sentences, of the General Court Martial, held at Col Shreve's

quarters, the 5th Inst: whereof Col Ogden was president.

John Jones, for "Deserting from his guard to the enemy"—to suffer *death* —Execution whereof, is suspended 'till further orders.

John Whitebread, Richard Shaw and John Wood, of the 11th Pennsylvania Regt. for "Desertion," are acquitted, and ordered to do duty as usual.

Lieut. Ross[3] of the 2nd. Jersey Batt. charged with "Assaulting, and using ungenteel language, to Capt. Anderson"[4] acquitted, and released from his arrest.

Ensign Patterson[5] of the 1st. Virginia Battn. for "Refusing to do duty, and leaving Camp without leave"—found guilty, and *cashiered* Ordered to depart.

Thomas Ovens of the 11th. Pennsylva. Battn. for "Deserting from his post, with intent to go to the enemy"—found guilty, and ordered to receive 100 lashes.

Benjamin Moore of the 2nd Jersey Battn. for "Deserting and reinlisting"—found guilty, and ordered to receive 75 lashes.

Serjt. Hammond of the 12th. Pennsylva. Battn. for "Mutiny, and striking Capt. Patterson"[6] —found guilty;—reduced, and to ask pardon.

Serjt. Hyliard, Serjt. Hallbrook, Corporal Smith, Philip Hendrick and Stephen Lee, of the 1st. Jersey Batt. "Suspected of having robbed the house of Elias Bland"—Hyliard found guilty, reduced to the ranks, and to receive 100 lashes—Smith and Lee found guilty, and to receive 100 lashes each—the residue of the sentence is dispensed with—And either of them, who confesses before punishment is inflicted, to be released—The other two are acquitted.

The General also approves the following sentences of a Court Martial, held at Morristown, the 12th Instant, whereof Lieut. Colonel Barber was president; and directs the immediate execution of them.

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3. Lieut. George Ross. He resigned Dec. 18, 1777.

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4. Capt. James Anderson, of the Second New Jersey Regiment.

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5. Ensign Benjamin Patterson.

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6. Capt. Alexander Patterson.

William Murphy of Col. Angell's regiment, tried for “Desertion” and acquitted.

Samuel Gratewood of the 3rd. Jersey regiment, accused of “Striking a Serjeant” found guilty, and condemned to receive 50 lashes.

Joseph Bordon of Col Patton's regiment, tried for “Theft,” and acquitted.

Henry Smith of Capt. Cattalin's[7] Company, for “Desertion,” acquitted.

Patrick Dunfee, of Col Olney's detachment, for “Stabbing the Adjnt. General's horse”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive 50 lashes.

Joseph Thornbury Esqr. is appointed Waggon Master General, and to be obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 16, 1777.

Parole Quebec. Countersign Roxbury.

Francis Swain Esqr., is appointed Brigade Major, to Brigadier Genl. Muhlenberg; and to be obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 17, 1777.

Parole Spanktown. Countersign Trenton.

All the troops in, and about Morristown, (those on duty excepted) are to attend divine service, to morrow morning.

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7. Capt. Eli Carlin, of the Fifth Connecticut Regiment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 19, 1777.

Parole Yorkshire. Countersign Zealand.

The Commander in Chief positively directs, that all officers stationed at Out-Posts, do not come to Morristown, but when their business absolutely requires it; and in that case, that they return to their posts, with all possible expedition.

Thomas Mullen Esqr., is appointed Brigade Major to Brigadier Genl. De-Borre; and is to be respected, and obeyed as such.

A number of horses having been drawn from the Quarter Master General, for particular services, and not returned when the business was performed: All officers of regiments, and others, in possession of horses, belonging to, or hired by the States; are immediately to return them to the Quarter Master General, his Deputy, or Assistants, in the district they may be at. The General Officers are to order returns to be made, of any public horses, employed in their families, that the state of the horses, belonging to the army, may be known.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 20, 1777.

Parole Alexandria. Countersign Bedford.

Valentine Peers Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major, to Brigadier Genl. Weedon; and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

Lewis Woodruff[63] Esqr. is appointed a Deputy Muster Master.

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63. Of the Fourth New Jersey Regiment. He retired in February, 1777.

Colonels, and Commanding Officers of Battalions, and Corps, must cause their regimental Paymasters, to make up their pay-abstracts to the 30th. day of April, inclusive, and order them to attend, at the Pay Master General's office for the money. They must be examined, and signed by their respective commanding officers, and Brigadiers, who will diligently compare them with the daily, and weekly, regimental returns, and certify them. The Company Abstracts must be delivered in, to the Pay Master General, with the Regimental abstracts.

That the great and necessary purpose, of adjusting the rank, of all the officers, in the American Army, may be effected with expedition. His Excellency the Commander in Chief, is pleased to order, that the Field Officers of each Continental Battalion, do immediately examine, into the present Rank, and hear the pretensions thereto, of all their Captains and Subalterns, settle them, where they can, to the satisfaction of all the Gentlemen concerned; and make a full, and fair report, of all their proceedings to the Brigadier commanding their brigade: And that the Brigadiers, with the assistance of the Field Officers, in their brigade, do, upon the receipt of such reports, proceed to adjust the rank of all the officers in their seperate brigades, and make a full, and fair report of their proceedings, to the Major Genl. commanding their division: That should there be any instance of dissatisfaction in the officers, with the determination of their Field Officers, they be immediately enumerated, by such Field Officers, and parties complaining, with all their attendant circumstances, and reported to their respective Brigadiers; who shall call before them all the parties interested, inquire into

their claims, and (if they cannot be settled to general satisfaction) make a special, and particular report, to their Major Generals. Upon receipt of which several reports, a board of officers will take a dispasionate, comparative view of the whole, and determine the rank in the army: Until which time, it is expected, the service will not be injured by disputes about rank, but that every officer will, by an emulous discharge of his duty, recommend himself to his Country, and to the promotion he thinks himself intitled to.[64]

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 21, 1777.

Parole Cambridge. Countersign Dorchester.

Michael Ryan Esqr. (late Brigade Major to the Garrison of Ticonderoga and Fort Independence) is appointed to that duty in Brigadier Genl. Wayne's Brigade; and to be respected and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 22, 1777.

Parole Epsom. Countersign France.

The following arrangement is to take place for the present, subject to such alterations as circumstances may hereafter require. Viz:

The 1st., 5th., 9th. and 13th. Regiments from Virginia, with Hazen's regiment; to compose the first Brigade from that State, under the command of Brigadier Genl. Muhlenberg—The 2nd., 6th., 10th and 14th. regiments, to compose the second, under the command of Brigadier Genl. Weedon—These two brigades to form a division, to be commanded

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64. Lieuts. William Clark and William Norcross, of the Third New Jersey Regiment, sent in their resignations May 19, 1777, because of a rank controversy. Washington refused to accept them, and Lieut. Col. John Fitzgerald wrote the lieutenants that the General “would remind you that this is the worst time a Young Gentleman could chuse for leaving the Service, as the Campaign must open in a short time, and your reasons, though they may appear satisfactory to yourselves, will not (in all probability) have the same weight with the publick.” Clark and Norcross remained in the service. Clark was severely wounded at Germantown, Pa., and did not return to the army. Norcross resigned Nov. 1, 1777.

by Major Genl. Greene.

The 3rd., 7th., 11th and 15th. Virginia Regiments, to compose the third brigade of that State, under the command of Brigadier Genl. Woodford: And the 4th., 8th. and 12th. together with Grayson's and Patton's, to compose the fourth, under the command of Brigadier Scott—These two brigades to form another division, to be commanded by Major Genl. Stephen.

The 1st., 3rd. and 6th. Maryland Regiments, and that from the lower Counties on Delaware, to compose the 1st. Maryland brigade, under the command of Brigadier Smallwood: and the 2nd., 4th. and 7th from the same State, and the German Battalion, to compose the second, under Brigadier De-Borré—These two brigades to form another division, under the command of Major Genl. Sullivan.

The 1st., 2nd., 7th. and 10th Pennsylvania regiments, and Hartley's, to compose the first brigade, from that State, under the command of Brigadier Wayne—And the 4th., 5th., 8th and 11th. the second brigade, under the command of Brigadier DeHaas—These two brigades to form another division, to be commanded by Major General Lincoln.

The 3rd., 6th., 9th and 12th. Pennsylvania regt. and Spencers, to form the third brigade from that State; and the 1st., 2nd., 3rd. and 4th Jersey regts. to compose the Jersey brigade—These two brigades, to compose another division, under the command of Major Genl. Lord Stirling.

General Knox is to make an arrangement of the Field Artillery; alloting a proportionate number of pieces to each

brigade. A sufficient quantity of spare ammunition, for both Artillery and Musquetry (to be conveyed in secure carriages) he is also to give the necessary orders for.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 23, 1777.

Parole Goshen. Countersign Hartford.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve, the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held at Ash-Swamp, on the 14th Inst. whereof Col Mathews[88] was President.

Ensign Gill[89] of the 4th. Virginia Regiment, charged with “Being absent from his regiment without leave, and neglect of duty,” found guilty of the charge; but in consideration of his good character in the regiment, ordered to be reprimanded, at the head of the regiment he belongs to, by the Colonel, or officer commanding the regiment.

Capt. Russell[90] of the 5th. Virginia Regt., charged with “Neglect of duty”—Not guilty—ordered to be released from his arrest.

Lieut. Bradford[91] of Col Rawling's Regiment, charged with “Being absent from his regiment without leave, and Neglect of duty”—No evidence appearing, ordered to be tried by a future Court Martial.

Thomas Smith of Col Irwin's Regt. (Pennsylvania) charged with “Desertion, and attempting to go to the enemy”—found guilty, and sentenced to suffer *death* —The execution of the sentence, to be suspended 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 24, 1777.

Parole Inverness. Countersign Kendal.

Aquila Giles Esqr. is appointed Aide-De-Camp

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88. Col. George Mathews, of the Ninth Virginia Regiment. He was wounded and taken prisoner at Germantown, Pa.; exchanged in December, 1781; served to end of the war.

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89. Ensign Samuel Gill. He retired with the rank of captain in September, 1778.

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90. Capt. Andrew Russell. He was promoted to major June 19, 1777; retired in September, 1778.

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91. Lieut. William Bradford. He had been taken prisoner at Fort Washington in November, 1776.

to Major Genl. St Clair; and to be obeyed and respected as such.

All the troops in, and near Morristown, (except on duty) to attend divine service, to morrow morning.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 26, 1777.

Parole Louisiana. Countersign Menden.

It being omitted (thro' mistake) in the Orders of the 22nd. Instant, to mention the Brigadiers that command in Major General Lord Stirling's division, Brigadier Genl. Conway takes command of the

3rd., 6th., 9th. and 12th. Pennsylva. Regts. and Col Spencer's regiment, which compose his brigade. And Genl. Maxwell of the 1st., 2nd., 3rd. and 4th. Jersey regiments, which form his brigade.

Peter Tarling Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major, to Brigadier Genl. Conway; and to be respected and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, May 27, 1777.

Parole Normandy. Countersign Oporto.

One Sub, one Serjt. and twenty privates, of Lieut. Col Olney's detachment to do duty as Artillery Men, under Lieut. — in Morristown, 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, May 29, 1777.

Parole Andover. Countersigns Boundbrook, Cumberland. Major Ryan,[28] who has done the duty of the Adjutant General, for some days past, is now excused from that service.

The Commander in Chief directs, that all orders issued here, previous to his coming to camp, be observed in full force, 'till countermanded, or alter'd by him.

As it is a matter of the greatest importance to have the Camp well secured; guards properly fixed; their respective duties precisely pointed out, and proper regulations established, to enable them to act in concert, and support each other—Major Genl. Greene is requested to assemble, as soon as possible, all the other General officers, and take these matters into consideration, at large and report their opinion of what they shall think necessary to be adopted. A Major General of the day is to make part of the regulations.

The detached state of the Army, has heretofore render'd it extremely difficult to communicate the orders of the Commander in Chief, to all the different parts, and will render it necessary that many should be repeated—He flatters himself, that henceforth, the most punctual regard will be

paid, to all orders, which, if the good of the service, and a principle of honor, do not produce; He is determined to enforce.

All firings, without permission from the Major Genl. of the day, must cease; those who are guilty of a breach of this order, will be severely punished—The nearest guard to the place where the

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28. Maj. Michael Ryan. He was brigade major to General Wayne from May, 1777, to June, 1779; major in the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment in October, 1777 (appointment was deemed irregular and he was superseded in May, 1778); captain in the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, to rank from January, 1777; resigned in June, 1779; served subsequently as Inspector General of Pennsylvania in 1780.

offence is committed, to send a file of men, to seize the offenders.

The commanding Officers of regiments, are to have their pay-abstracts immediately made out, and lodged with the PayMaster General, for all pay due to the 1st. of May—After that time, they are to pursue the modes pointed out by Congress, to obtain payment, and each Brigadier will inform them what they are, and see them properly complied with.

The Brigade Majors are to attend the Adjutant General, precisely at the hour of 12 every day, to receive orders.

Two orderly Serjeants to be furnished by each Brigade; one to attend the Commander in Chief; the other the Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, May 30, 1777.

Parole Dover. Countersigns Epsom, France.

The Commissary General is to adopt every means in his power, to provide Vinegar for the use of the army; and to see that provisions are regularly served; to do which with ease, he is to have an Assistant with each brigade. Provisions are to be delivered to regimental Quarter Masters only, or to a commissioned officer authorised for the purpose, when the regiment has no Quarter Master—except in cases of small detachments, when a non-commissioned officer may receive them. None to be delivered, without proper returns being made to the Commissaries.

The commanding officers of corps are to take care that their men always have two days provision, by them, that they

may not suffer in case of any sudden all, to any particular duty: The Brigadiers to pay a proper attention to this matter; and also to have the arms, of their brigades, examined, and make report of the kind and quality—They are moreover to see that their brigades are completed with ammunition, as soon as possible; and that all waste of it, is prevented.

The General has the pleasure to acquaint the army, that General Parsons formed an expedition to the East end of Long Island, under the command of Lieut. Col Meigs, which was attended with the most happy success—After burning eleven vessels, loaded with one hundred and twenty ton of pressed forage, rum, and other articles, and one armed vessel of 12 Guns; they brought off Ninety prisoners, besides killing several of the enemy—Six only escaped. As the army is now collected, and may soon be engaged in important transactions. The General takes occasion, from the laudable instance he has mentioned, to declare to the army, both officers and men, that, he will be strictly observant of their conduct, and make a point of distinguishing those, by his rewards, who distinguish themselves, by their bravery, and good behaviour—As merit will not pass unnoticed; so misconduct will meet with the severest punishment.

A General Court Martial to sit immediately, for the trial of all prisoners who shall be brought before it.—All Evidences to attend.

The Brigade Majors are to attend the Grand Parade, and be answerable that their men are well supplied with ammunition, and their arms in good condition—No excuse will be admitted for any neglect of this necessary duty.

The light Cavalry, which are to attend the picquets

as Videts, are to be on the Grand parade, precisely at Guard mounting.

AFTER ORDERS.

The Commander in Chief directs, that the whole Army be ready to move by 4 Oclock to morrow morning; their tents struck; their baggage loaded, and men under arms—it is expected that every thing in the Quarter Master General, and Commissary General's departments will be ready to move at the same time.

Brigadiers commanding brigades, and commanding Officers of regiments, and corps, are to pay strict attention to see their officers, and men, in camp this evening, and well supplied with ammunition.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, May 31, 1777.

Parole Guilford. Countersigns Hackinsack, Ireland.

A principal design of the movement this morning was, to see whether a proper distribution of baggage waggons had been made, to the several regiments, and with what degree of alertness, and expedition, the army could be ready to march, on a sudden emergency—The General has much reason for approbation in many respects; but, though there was great exactness, in some instances —He wishes a greater punctuality to the time had been more generally observed. Every Officer of reflection must be sensible of the necessity of a strict

regard to the time prescribed in movements of this kind, on which the success of the most important events may absolutely depend—And it will be expected in future, that a precise conformity to the moment pointed out will mark the conduct of every corps.

The General earnestly recommends, that Officers of every rank, will disincumber themselves of all superfluous baggage, as it will only serve to employ a greater number of waggons than can be spared, consistent with the good of the service; and must be lost in the course of the campaign.

Nothing is more common, than to hear men plead ignorance of general orders, in excuse for a breach of them. Nor is this excuse confined to privates only—it sometimes even disgraces the mouths of officers—To prevent it in future, The General orders, the commanding officers of corps, to have general orders constantly read to their corps. They may rely upon being called to a severe account, should the same plea be made hereafter, supported by truth.

It is much to be lamented, that the foolish and scandalous practice of *profane Swearing* is exceedingly prevalent in the American Army—Officers of every rank are bound to discourage it, first by their example, and then by punishing offenders—As a mean to abolish this, and every other species of immorality—Brigadiers are enjoined, to take effectual care, to have divine service duly performed in their respective brigades.

By a return from the Quarter Master General, it appears, that more, than a sufficiency of tents, have been issued, to

cover the whole army; yet some corps are defective in that article—Others must have had more than proportion—The Commander in Chief repeats the late order from Major Genl. Greene, calling for immediate returns to the Quarter Master General of the exact number of tents drawn by each corps.

The General approves the following Sentences of a Court Martial, held at Boundbrook the 21st. Inst. whereof Colo. Spotswood[43] was president—

Thomas Edwards of the 7th. Virginia Regt. tried for "Sleeping on his post"—sentenced to receive 50 lashes.

William Fees of Col Angel's Regt. for "Desertion," to receive 100 lashes.

Evan Loyd of the 9th. Pennsylv: Regt. for Desertion, to receive 25 lashes.

Aaron Apply of the 4th. Pennsylv: for "Sleeping on his post"—to receive 25 lashes—On account of his being a young soldier, and of a good character, his punishment is remitted.

Joseph Bryant of the 2nd. Virginia—for "Sleeping on his post"—to receive 50 lashes.

Dennis Myers—3rd Pennsylva.—for "Desertion, and threatening to desert"—to receive 100 lashes.

Edward Banker of the same Regt., and for the same Crime—acquitted.

Thomas Murphy—10th. Pennsylva.—for "Desertion"—to receive 50 lashes.

John Trow of Major Ottendorf's Corps[44] for "Desertion" to be reprimanded by his commanding officer.

John McConnel of the 10th. Pennsylv:—for "Desertion," to receive 100 lashes.

William Hardy of the German battalion for "Desertion, and inlisting in two different regiments" to be reprimanded by his Colonel.

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43. Col. Alexander Spotswood, of the Second Virginia Regiment. He resigned on Oct. 9, 1777.

44. Nicholas Dietrich, Baron de Ottendorff. He was a major of three Pennsylvania companies which were merged with Armand's Partisan Corps in October, 1780.

Jeffries Connol of the 3rd. Pennsylva. for “Desertion”—to receive 25 lashes.

Robert Story—7th Maryland—for “Desertion” to be reprimanded.

Alexander Henderson—10th. Pennsylv. for “Desertion”—to receive 25 lashes.

Peter Smith—7th Maryland—for “Quitting his post”—to be reprimanded.

Nicholas Homber—8th. Pennsylva.—“Desertion”—acquitted.

Those Sentences to be immediately executed, except in the instance, in which the punishment is remitted.

The brigades on the right and left, front and rear of the camp, are to establish small guards, of one Subaltern, one Corporal and eight Privates, in all the passes leading to the camp, in order to prevent Soldiers from straggling, and the Country people from coming into Camp—No Countryman, or other person, to come into camp, without permission from the nearest Brigadier, or Field Officer; All persons in camp, who cannot give a satisfactory account of themselves, are to be confined, and reported to the nearest Brigadier—These Guards to be relieved by the Brigade Majors daily.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 1, 1777.

Parole Dublin. Countersigns Dartmouth, Derby.

The General directs the following rules to be invariably observed throughout the army; and as he is apprehensive they will meet with great obstacles, in the carelessness, and indolence of some officers; he thinks it necessary to declare, that he will not overlook any neglect, or breach of them, that shall come

to his knowledge.

Each regiment to be paraded at troop and at retreat beating—the rolls carefully called, and absentees punished. All officers, not on duty, to attend the parade—to see that their men are clean

and decent—their arms and accoutrements in order—their ammunition complete—that they behave well in their ranks, are *silent, steady* and *orderly* .

Once a day, at such time as the Brigadier shall judge most convenient, each corps to be exercised in the manual, and evolutions; and once a week at least, each brigade to be exercised collectively under the direction of its Brigadier—The most essential part of discipline being marching and forming, this should be more particularly practiced. All officers, not on other duty, to be present on these occasions, not as unconcerned Spectators, but to learn, and to perform their own duty, and to see that the men do theirs—The Field Officers to exercise their regiments themselves, and in their absence the Captains; and not leave it to Adjutants, as has been heretofore the case. It is necessary the men should be accustomed to the voice and command of those, who are to direct them in Action, and that these should by practice acquire a facility in doing their part.

The General observes with concern, that both officers and Soldiers are guilty of the unsoldierly practice of straggling from camp—He forbids the continuance of it on any pretence whatever—Whoever shall be found a mile from camp, unless on duty, or with permission of the Brigadier commanding him, whether officer, or soldier, shall be tried for disobedience of orders.

As there is a necessity for the Army to rise, and turn out every morning at Revellie-beating—they ought to go to rest early—

All lights must be put out at 9 o'Clock in the evening, and every man to his tent.

The Provost Marshal to patrole the camp, and its environs frequently—to take up all who cannot give a good account of themselves, and all disorderly persons—He is to see that the Suttlers do not deal out liquors &c at an untimely hour, but conform to such rules as have been, or may be formed, relating to them.

The commanding officers of corps who may not have seen the order of the 20th. of May, respecting the arrangement of rank, will immediately send their Adjutants to Head-Quarters, for it, and will be expeditious in complying with it.

The commanding officer of every Corps is to make a report early to morrow morning, to his Brigadier, of the number of Rifle-men under his command—In doing which, he is to include none but such as are known to be perfectly skilled in the use of these guns, and who are known to be active and orderly in their behaviour—Each Brigadier to make a collective Return to the Adjutant General of these men.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 2, 1777.

Parole Killkenny. Countersigns Lancaster, Millstone.

The Muster Master General is, without loss of time, to cause musters to be made of the whole Army —He will give notice to the different corps when to hold themselves respectively in readiness for the purpose.

The Brigadiers, and Field Officers, of the

day are constantly to attend the grand parade—to see that the guards are properly assembled—give the necessary directions respecting them, and have them marched to their several posts in order —The Adjutants to collect the proportion assigned each regiment on their regimental parades—inspect carefully the state of their arms, accoutrements, ammunition and dress—and march them off, in order, to the brigade parades—The Brigade Majors to receive them there from the Adjutants, examining in like manner the state of their arms &c—and to march them off to the grand parades there delivering them to the Brigade Major of the day.

Decency, and a regard to health, especially in this hot season, indispensibly require, that vaults should be immediately dug, in the rear of each encampment, as repositories of every kind of filth —They should be covered with green boughs, and fresh earth thrown upon them every morning or two—This business to be done by Camp-Colour-Men, under the direction of the regimental Quarter-Masters, who are to see that they execute it properly—sweep the streets of the encampment, and keep it, in all respects clean, and free from every thing noxious, or offensive—The Quarter Master General will furnish tools—he is also to visit the camp, and report how far this order is complied with.

Each regiment, or corps to appoint, by rotation, a regimental officer of the day, whose province it shall be to visit the sick, and see that they are provided, and taken care of; making daily reports to the commanding officer of their number, and condition—to inspect the food of the men, both as to the quality and the manner of dressing it, obliging the men to accustom themselves more to boiled meats and soups, and less to broiled and roasted, which

as a constant diet, is destructive to their health. The officer is also to attend closely to the cleanliness of the camp, for which he will be answerable, and is bound to see, that there be no neglect in the Quarter Masters, or Camp-colourmen.

Returns of all the sick of each corps, both in and out of Camp, to be made to morrow morning to the Surgeon General—their number, condition, and the places where they are, to be specified.

The commanding officer s of corps not yet provided with Paymasters, to recommend, without delay, proper persons for that station to the General—They must be men of probity, good accomptants, methodical, and must write a good hand.

Henry Livingston Esqr.[65] is appointed Lieutenant in His Excellency's guard.

Until the arrival of Brigadier De Haas, the eldest officer in his brigade is to take the command; and John Harpur[66] Esqr. is appointed to the duty of Brigade Major in that brigade 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 3, 1777.

Parole Norfolk. Countersigns New-London, Nantz.

As in the detached state of the Artillery, the men often suffer for want of Surgeons, it being impossible for their own regimental Surgeons to take due care of them, dispersed as they are, over the whole line—Each Brigadier is to see that the regimental Surgeons of his brigade pay every necessary attention to the detachment of artillery annexed thereto.

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65. Henry Philip Livingston. He, later, became a captain of the guard and resigned Mar. 26. 1779.

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66. John Harper. He was taken prisoner at Brandywine, Pa., exchanged in November, 1780, and did not reenter the service.

Regimental Surgeons are not to send any of their sick to Hospital without first obtaining a certificate from the Surgeon General, or one of his deputies for the purpose.

The Brigadiers to have the Springs, adjacent to their several encampments, well cleared and enlarged; placing Sentries over them, to see that the water is not injured by dirty utensils. A board

sunk in them, will be the best means to keep them from being muddy, and an arbour over them will serve to preserve them cool. They are also to have all dead cattle, horses, or other carrion removed to a distance from the camp, and buried deep under ground. They will see that the orders to promote cleanliness are punctually observed, and indeed all others; for whether particularly called upon or not, The Comander in Chief looks to them, with an attentive eye, for the execution of all his orders, which they must be sensible their duty, and honor demand.

No prisoners, whose crimes may properly come before a regimental Court Martial to be sent to, or received at, the Provost guard; but to be committed to regimental Quarter guards, and regimentally tried.

It having been represented to the General, that commanding officers of corps, undertake to seize and confine Commissaries, at their pleasure in common Guard-houses—He thinks it necessary to declare, that a practice so irregular and injurious cannot be tolerated: At the same time, he means not to countenance any neglect of duty in the Commissaries, but will be ready to attend, to whatever complaints may be justly made against them, to rectify the abuses they commit, and punish their delinquency.[69]

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69. Col. Daniel Brodhead had arrested some of Col. Joseph Trumbull's deputies. By Washington's direction, Tench Tilghman wrote to Trumbull (June 3) that a regular complaint should have been lodged against the commissaries, and if they have been aggrieved that they have the right to call for a court of inquiry upon Brodhead's conduct.

No horses to be let loose into the wheat, or other fields about camp; unless first pointed out, and devoted to the purpose, by the Quarter Master General.

Brigadiers to see the order, for the arrangement of officer's ranks, immediately complied with, by appointing a day, for the field officers of each regiment to take it up. The General is surprised, and sorry to find, that a matter about which so much anxiety and embarrassment have been expressed, when put upon a proper footing to be adjusted, meets with so much neglect and delay.

The Generals, Field Officers, and Brigade Majors of the day, will be expected to favor His Excellency with their company at dinner, as a standing rule, without particular invitation.

The following Sentences of a Court Martial, held the 2nd. Inst: are approved by the Commander in Chief; and their immediate execution directed.

Abraham Wood of the 9th. Pennsyl. regiment, tried for “Desertion”, and sentenced to receive 25 lashes.

Jacob Rose—12th. Pennsylv. Regt. tried for “Desertion”, and sentenced to receive 25 lashes.

John Welsh—7th. Maryland Regt. charged with “Desertion”—The Court are of opinion, he is intitled to the benefit of General Washington's proclamation, offering pardon to deserters; and that he should be delivered to Major Bush to do duty in his regiment, until he can be sent to the regiment he belongs to.

Henry Ryan of the 8th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Encouraging Desertion” and sentenced to receive 50 lashes—

Patrick Henry of the 11th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Having inlisted into two regiments, without being discharged”—sentenced to be reprimanded by the commanding officer of the regiment he belongs to, and the money he received as bounty from Capt Taylor of the 5th. Pennsylva. regiment to be stop'd out of his pay.

Lieut. Thomas Cook of the 8th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Having made known the Parole and Countersign, to a person not entitled to receive them”—found guilty of the charge exhibited against him, but in consideration of his good character, sentenced only to be reprimanded by the Colonel, in the presence of the officers of the regiment he belongs to.

Lieut. Jolly[70] of the 11th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Cowardice and neglect of duty”—not guilty, and ordered to be released from his arrest forthwith.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 4, 1777.

Parole Oporto. Countersigns Portsmouth, Pompton.

The Commissary General to have his slaughter-house, at least a mile in the rear of the camp, and to be very careful to have the offals, of what he kills, buried, a sufficient depth under ground. He must be provided with waggons, to convey the meat to places near each Brigade, for the more commodious distribution of it; and must see that no relicts are left in those places, through

carelessness. As proper precautions, in the regulation of this part of the Commissary General's department, are essential to the health of the army, The General hopes he will be particularly

70. Lieut. Maybury Jolly. He became a captain in the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment Mar. 31, 1778; retired July 1, 1778.

attentive to it.

A return to be made to morrow, to the Adjutant General, of all the women belonging to the camp.

The music of the army being in general very bad; it is expected, that the drum and fife Majors exert themselves to improve it, or they will be reduced, and their extraordinary pay taken from them. Stated hours to be assigned, for all the drums and fifes, of each regiment, to attend them and practice—Nothing is more agreeable, and ornamental, than good music; every officer, for the credit of his corps, should take care to provide it.

The *revellie* to be beaten at day-break—the *troop* at 8 o'clock in the morning, and *retreat* at sunset. For the sake of regularity, the drum of the regiment, on the right of the line, to give three taps, allowing a sufficient equal space between each, as a warning to the drum of the one next on the left; which is to do the same, and so on, through the whole—the second line taking it by the right from the regiment in front, and the advanced Brigades, by the right from the regiment in the rear—These taps over, and a proper interval allowed for the warning to become general, the *drummer's call* must be given as the signal for what is to follow; and then the whole music of the line begin in concert—the *revellie* , *troop* or *retreat* , as it may happen.

The same complaint has been made to the General, respecting the abuse of Quarter Masters, which was mentioned in yesterday's orders relative to Commissaries—An end must be put to all such irregular conduct—Misbehaviour in those departments ought to be punished; but it must be done in a proper manner.

The whole army to be immediately furnished with four days provisions.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 5, 1777.

Parole Rochester. Countersigns Reading, Ringwood.

The following officers for daily duty—a Major General—Brigadiertwo Field Officers—and a Brigade Major.

The Major General of the day is, in some sort to represent the Commander in Chief—He is to give directions for all guards, parties and detachments—to receive reports of the proceedings, and of every occurrence of any importance, both in and out of camp. All deserters and prisoners, other than for common military offences, to be brought to him for examination, and disposed of by him—All detachments, or reinforcements arriving, to be reported to him immediately, on their arrival, and to take his orders—He is to superintend the regulation of the camp, and the execution of all General orders; for which purpose he should visit the whole line, if not absolutely prevented by other duties; and he is to report, to the Commander in chief, what, from his observations, he may think necessary to be done, for the better regulation of the camp and army. He is to oversee the order of march, and the dispositions for battle, according to directions from the Commander in Chief—In cases of sudden alarms, he is instantly to repair to the place where the danger appears to be; and if it is likely to be serious, he must with all speed, send to inform the Commander in Chief; and 'till he hears from him, he must employ those means which seem to him necessary, conformable to the exigency of the occasion.

He is to make a general report next morning, to the Commander in chief, of every thing that passes worth notice on his day. Occurrences of emergency, and that require immediate attention, to be reported the moment they are known by the Major General.

The Brigadier of the day is to be considered as the commanding officer of all the guards—He is to receive his orders in the morning from the Major General.—He is to attend the Grand parade, to see every thing conducted with propriety—to assign the posts and give all necessary directions—to visit them after they arrive, and see that they have taken post right; have followed the rules prescribed them; taken proper precautions to secure themselves and avoid surprize; and to give his orders accordingly—On an alarm he is to perform all the essential duties of commanding officer of the guards—He is to make a general report of every thing relating to them, to the Major General.

The Field Officers to attend the Grand parade, and assist the Brigadier; and follow such directions, as he shall think proper to give, respecting the guards—They are to visit them at night, by way of *grand rounds* , escorted by a small party of horse—to see if they are alert and upon the watch, and if the Sentries are well stationed and instructed, and do their duty—They are to receive an evening report from the officers, of the state of their guards, and of what unusual occurrences may have happened, and to give directions accordingly. Every thing extraordinary to be reported to the Brigadier, as soon as their tour is over, or sooner, if necessary—They are to receive morning reports from the several

guards, when relieved, and digest them in a general one for the Brigadier—On an alarm they are to take their orders from the Brigadier.

The Brigade Major of the day is also to attend the parade—to receive the detachments that to compose the guard, and are to compare them with the detail—to inspect their arms, accoutrements, ammunition and dress to count off the guards and assign the officers their posts by lot—to march them from the Grand parade, and do every other requisite duty, agreeable to the orders of the Brigadier. He is to give each commanding officer of a guard the parole and countersigns before he march off; and is to attend the Brigadier frequently through the day, to receive his further occasional orders—In case of an alarm, he is to accompany the Brigadier.

For the future an Aide-de-Camp from each division, to attend at Head Quarters for General orders. The Brigade Majors to receive them at the quarters of their Major Generals, which will be more convenient to them as they are obliged to attend for division orders.

The Brigade Majors to attend the Adjutant General once a week, or oftener, if required, to settle the detail.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 6, 1777.

Parole Salisbury. Countersigns Stockbridge, Stamford.

General Lincoln's division is to furnish the guards for the Quibble-town and Lincoln's pass (or Mount pleasant) and to be excused from furnishing men for the other guards. And, as it would be inconvenient for the Generals and Field officers of the day for the line, to visit those guards—Genl. Lincoln and his officers are excused from doing duty by Roster with the other

divisions of the army.

Genl. Lincoln is to establish a grand parade for his division, to assemble his guards at, and appoint field officers to visit the guards by day and night.

He is to send a daily report of all extraordinary occurrences that happen in his division to the Major General of the day.

When Quarter-Masters or Commissaries are guilty of a neglect, or breach of duty, if they are attached to brigades; a report to be made to the Brigadier, who is to order a court of inquiry, and report the proceedings, if the charge is supported, to the Major General of the day. If they are not so attached, the complaint to be lodged with the Major General of the day, who will order a court of inquiry, and receive a report of their proceedings—The report, in both cases, to be submitted to the Commander in Chief, who will take care that offenders do not go unpunished—Regimental Quarter Masters are not included in this order, who are subject to the same rules with other regimental officers.

The morning gun at day-break to be a signal for the *revellie* ; and the evening gun at sun-set a signal for the *retreat* —The officers of quarter guards to see, that they are immediately after beaten in each regiment, in the order heretofore prescribed.

Mr. Hezekiah Stoakes, by recommendation of the field officers of the 8th. Virginia regiment, is appointed Pay Master thereof.

Major Genl. Green's division to practice with actual firing this afternoon at o'clock—In this, and all like cases,

before the men begin to fire, their arms to be critically examined by the officers to see that they are not loaded with ball; also attention to be paid to their having their cartridges so disposed, as to be in no danger through hurry, of making use of those charged with ball instead of the others. Accidents will be imputed to the carelessness of the officers, and they made to account for it.

Lieut. Myers[82] tried by a General Court Martial, the 3rd. In. stant for “Behaving in a scandalous and infamous manner, unworthy the character of an officer and gentleman; in getting drunk, and abusing the Colonel, and the rest of the officers of the regiment he belongs to”—and acquitted.

The Commander in Chief is sorry he is obliged to dissent from this sentence; but as he cannot conceive from the face of the evidence, what reasons could influence the acquital; he is under the disagreeable necessity of directing a reconsideration of the matter.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 7, 1777.

Parole Tacenton. Countersigns Truro, Tunbridge.

As the army is now on a permanent and honorable footing, and as the General has the credit of it very much at heart—He expects that every officer, on whom the importance of the contest, and a regard to his own honor, or duty are sufficiently impressed will lend their aid to support the character of it—To this end, nothing can be more effectual, than a close attention to discipline and subordination; and particularly

82. Lieut. Christian Meyers, of the German Battalion. He was a captain in March, 1778, and retired in January, 1781.

in an exact obedience to all General orders; which is the life of an army. Officers should consider that a repetition of orders, is the highest reflection upon those who are the cause of it—An orderly book is a record in the hands of thousands, of the transactions of an army; and consequently of the disgrace of those, whose insensibility to the obligations they are under, and whose want of a manly emulation of temper, OBLIGE the Commander in Chief to publish their misconduct, by repeating his calls upon them to discharge their duty.

The General appeals to the understanding of every officer; and earnestly recommends a serious consideration of these matters—Their engagements with the public;—their own honor—and the salvation of their country demand it.—The General wishes it on these accounts, and for his own ease and satisfaction; for as nothing is more easy than to conduct an army, where a chearful and ready obedience is paid to every order; so nothing is more difficult and embarrasing, where a careless, licentious and disorderly spirit prevails. Thus much is said to lead Gentlemen into a proper train of thinking on the subject, and to engage their judgment and feelings on the side of their duty; but it is at the same time necessary to subjoin, that a punishment and disgrace will attend those, who will not be influenced by more honorable means.

Captains should make a point of seeing that every order affecting their companies is complied with —Colonels should do the same in their regiments—Brigadiers in their brigades, and Major Generals in their divisions. No officer should implicitly trust to another, but each perform his own part, and see that those under him do theirs. This being the case, every thing would go on

smoothly and well; but while the contrary is practiced, and every officer is glad to throw the irksome drudgery of obedience, upon his inferior, nothing but disorder and ruin can ensue.

No officer to be absent from camp, without a furlough from his Brigadier, nor in that case, for more than ten days, at a time—The Adjutant General will furnish each Brigadier applying, with printed furloughs for the purpose, which alone are to be made use of.

Deserters to be immediately sent to the Major General of the day—The person conducting them, not to permit them to stop any where, to answer any questions, that shall be made them.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a Court Martial, held the 4th. Instant; and orders their immediate execution.

Lieut. Shannon[9] of the 1st. Virginia regiment tried for "Putting the Pay-Master of said regiment in the guard-house." Sentence to ask pardon in the presence of the officers of his regiment.

Andrew Spalding of Col Patton's regt. for "Disobedience of orders, and threatening to shoot an officer"—sentenced to receive 100 lashes.

Peter O'Neal, Corporal in the 7th. Pennsylvania, for "Having threatened to desert"—to receive 50 lashes.

Richard Hurly of the 7th. Pennsylva. for "Intending to desert"—acquitted.

John Taylor of the same Regt. for "Intending and threatening to desert"—to receive 25 lashes.

Alexander McDonald, with "Intending and threatening to desert"

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9. Lieut. William Shannon. He resigned in July, 1777.

—to receive 15 lashes.

Serjt. Mackey of the 11th. Pennsylv. for "Leaving his guard without permission"—to be reduced to the ranks.

Thomas Fishwater of the 9th. Virginia for "Desertion, and attempting to go to the enemy"—to receive 100 lashes.

Also a Court Martial held the 5th. Instant.

Luke Debow of the 3rd. Jersey, for "Desertion"—to receive 100 lashes.

David Forbes of Col. Patton's Regt. for “Desertion”—acquitted.

Jabez Lambert of the 5th. Pennsylv. for “Desertion”, to receive 50 lashes.

Edward Evendon of the 2nd. Jersey for “Desertion” to receive 25 lashes.

Michael Reyley of the 9th. Pennsylv. for “Threatening the life of Adjutant Thompson”[10] to receive 50 lashes.

Joseph Swan of the 9th. Pennsylv. for “Being drunk on his post”—to receive 15 lashes.

Joseph Cockran of the 9th. Pennsylv. with “Being drunk on guard”—to receive 15 lashes.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 8, 1777.

Parole Mifflin. Countersigns Munster, Milford.

By intelligence from different quarters, there is much reason to believe the enemy are on the eve of some important operation—This makes it absolutely necessary, that the whole army should hold themselves, in constant readiness to move at a moments warning; and for that purpose they are to be always furnished with three days provision, ready cooked—Officers to take care that their men carry their own packs; and to suffer none but invalids to put their arms, or packs into the waggons.

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10. Adjt. William Thompson.

The Quarter Master General to settle with the Brigadiers, the proper allowance of waggons for their respective brigades; and to furnish them, or make up any deficiency immediately.

All arms delivered out of the public stores, or purchased by officers for the use of the Continent; to be branded without loss of time, agreeable to former orders.

For the future none but printed furloughs to be given to soldiers—Any soldier absent from his corps with only a written furlough, will be taken up, and his furlough deemed a forgery—This to be advertised in the public papers of each state.

A return to be made to morrow of the Chaplains in each brigade, specifying where they are.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 9, 1777.

Parole Newcastle. Countersigns Newark, Newport.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 6th. Instant and orders them to be put in execution forth with—The delinquents to be immediately taken out of the Guard-house, and punished at the brigade parades, to which they respectively belong.

William Nicholson, Abraham Hill, Thomas Banks and Anthony Payne—all of the 15th. Virginia Regt. charged with "Desertion"—Nicholson and Hill to receive 25 lashes each; Banks and Anthony

20 each.

John King of the 1st. New-Jersey Regt. charged with "Desertion" to receive 50 lashes.

John Lowry of the 9th. Virginia—charged with "damning the General and his orders" to receive 39 lashes.

James Daugherty of the 3rd. New-Jersey—charged with "Desertion"—to receive 100 lashes.

Daniel Hailey of the 3rd. Virginia Regt. charged with "Deserting from his regiment and inlisting in the 10th. Pennsylvania regiment"—to receive 25 lashes.

Samuel Mason of the 3rd. Virginia regt. charged with "Deserting from his regiment and inlisting in the 10th. Pennsylvania regiment"—to receive 20 lashes.

John Bybecker of the German battalion, charged with "Desertion and inlisting into another regiment"—the sentence postponed for further evidence.

The duty of the Major General of the day, to begin at the mounting of the guard one day and to end at the same time the next.

The commanding officer of each corps to keep an ammunition account with their men, and make them pay, for all that is wantonly wasted.

Captains of companies to keep a list of their men's cloaths, and have them critically examined every Saturday—A soldier shall not presume to sell any part of his cloaths on any pretence whatever.

The prisoners under sentence of death, to prepare for execution, tomorrow at 12 o'clock—The whole Army, except General Lincoln's division, to be assembled for this purpose, near

the Artillery park—The criminals to be attended with such Chaplains, as they choose.[20]

As there is a plenty of common and French sorrel; lamb's quarters,[21] and water cresses, growing about camp; and as these vegetables are very conducive to health, and tend to prevent the scurvy and all putrid disorders—The General recommends to the soldiers the constant use of them, as they make an agreeable sallad, and have the most salutary effect. The regimental officer of the day to send to gather them every morning, and have them distributed among the men.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 10, 1777.

Parole Okehampton. Countersigns Overton, Oxford. The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a Court Martial, held the 7th. Inst., of which Col Thomas Marshall of the 3rd. Virginia Regt. was president.

Lieut. Kirtley[22] of the 8th. Virginia Regiment, charged with “Disobedience of orders, and absenting himself three months, beyond the time allotted him to join his regiment” found not guilty of being absent from his regiment, three months, beyond the time allotted him; But guilty of disobedience of orders—sentenced to be discharged from the service.

Lieut. Tully Robertson of the 4th. Virginia Regimt. charged with “Absenting himself from his regiment without leave”—found guilty of the charge, and sentenced to be

20. See General Orders, May 7, 1777, and May 23, 1777, *ante*.

21. Otherwise white goosefoot.

22. Lieut. James Kirtley.

discharged the service and to forfeit his pay from the 30th of December last, 'till he joined his regiment again.

Lieut. Ford[23] of the 4th. Virginia regiment charged with “Disobedience of Orders, in the instance of firing a gun, without proper permission, in camp”—sentenced to receive a reprimand by the commanding officer of the said regiment, in the presence of the officers of the same.

John Smith of the 7th. Pennsylvania regiment, formerly the 6th. charged with “Inlisting into the 9th. Pennsylvania regiment, without a discharge from the 7th.”—sentenced to receive 25 lashes, on his back, and the bounty of Twenty Dollars, which he received from the 9th. Pennsylvania Regiment, to be stopped out of his pay.

Peter Burney, of the 3rd. New Jersey regiment charged with “Desertion”—sentenced to be discharged.

Joshua Swoden, of the 1st. New Jersey regiment charged with “Desertion”—sentenced to be discharged.

William Shaddock of the 9th. Pennsylv. Regimt. tried by the same Court Martial the 2nd. of June, for “Desertion”—omitted in former orders—sentenced to receive 25 lashes on his bare back.

Such regiments as have not already drawn Tomahawks, are immediately to provide themselves with at least one or two to a mess. The Quarter Master General is to charge those to the regiments, and each mess charged with what is delivered to it, that they may be returned when called for, or pay for them, if lost. The Quarter Master General is to furnish each brigade,

23. Lieut. Denham Ford. He was made Commissary of Military Stores in October, 1777; cashiered Jan. 3, 1778,

with an assortment of intrenching tools, which are always to accompany the brigade, under the care of the Brigade Quarter Master, and to be delivered to the order of the Brigadier, as occasion shall require—the tools already delivered to the regiments to be accounted for.

The commanding officer of every Corps is to keep an exact account of the arms received and delivered, for the use of it, as there will be a careful inquiry into this matter, and a satisfactory account expected of them.

The movements of this army, either for offensive or defensive measures will be sudden, whenever they do happen; consequently no time can be allowed, either to draw or cook provisions; it may not be amiss therefore, again to remind the officers of the necessity of having their men provided agreeable to the order of the 8th. Inst. and the Commissary is desired, if possible, to furnish biscuit and salt provisions, for this purpose, which the men may keep by them, and continue to draw their usual allowance.

It has been so often, and so pressingly recommended to officers to have no unnecessary baggage with them, that it is hoped the army is entirely unincumbered with it; but if the case should be otherwise, the General desires the Brigadiers will have it immediately removed. The Adjutant General will direct to what place. After this notice, officers are not to be surprised, if heavy boxes, great bedsteads &c. are left in the field. A very small escort from the whole line, will be necessary to guard the baggage sent off, pursuant to this order, and to be composed of the most indifferent, but under the command of

a careful officer.

The General is informed, that great complaints are made by the inhabitants nearest the enemy's lines, of soldiers taking away their horses, and other property, and that in many instances they are countenanced by the officers, under the idea of the Inhabitants being *Tories* ; expressly orders a stop to be put to such practices, or those who are convicted of them, will be brought to exemplary punishment. Such Inhabitants as are proper objects of punishment, will be dealt with in a legal way; but no officer, or soldier, is to judge for himself, and appropriate their property to their own use, or to seize it without proper orders.

The ground in the rear of the Artillery park, is to be considered as the Grand parade 'till further orders: All guards to mount and be dismissed there accordingly.

It is with inexpressible regret the Commander in Chief has been driven to the necessity of doing a severe, but necessary act of Justice, as an example of what is to be expected by those daring offenders, who, lost to all sense of duty, and the obligations they owe to their Country, and to mankind, wantonly violate the most sacred engagements, and fly to the assistance of an enemy, they are bound by every tie to oppose. A spirit of desertion is alone the most fatal disease that can attend an army, and the basest principle that can actuate a soldier; Wherever it shews itself, it deserves detestation, and calls for the most exemplary punishment. What confidence can a General have in any Soldier, who he has reason to apprehend may desert in the most interesting moments ? What, but the want of every moral and manly sentiment, can induce him to desert the cause, to which he

has pledged his faith, even with the solemnity of an oath, and which he is bound to support, by every motive of justice and good will to himself, and his fellow creatures ? When such a character appears, it may almost be said in reference to it, that forbearance is folly; and mercy degenerates into cruelty.

Notwithstanding this, and tho' the General is determined to convince every man, that crimes of so atrocious a nature shall not be committed with impunity; yet as He is earnestly desirous to shew that he prefers clemency to severity—pardoning to punishing—He is happy to proclaim, the remission of their offences, to all the other prisoners now under sentence, and a releasement to all those now under confinement for trial—He hopes that they, and all others will have a proper sense of this Act of lenity, and will not be ungrateful or foolish enough to abuse it. They will do well to remember that Justice may speedily overtake them, as it has done the unhappy man, whom they have seen fall a Victim to his own folly and wickedness. Those who are pardoned can expect no favor on a second offence. But, Why will Soldiers force down punishment upon their own heads ? Why will they not be satisfied to do their duty, and reap the benefits of it ? The General addresses himself to the feelings of every man in the army; exhorting one and all to consult their own honor and wellfare—to refrain from a conduct that can only serve to bring disgrace and destruction upon themselves, and ruin to their country. He intreats them not to sully the Arms of America, by their Infidelity, Cowardice or Baseness, and save him the anguish of giving Guilt the chastisement it demands. They are engaged in the justest cause men can defend; they have every prospect of success, if they do their part. Why will they

abandon, or betray so great a trust? Why will they madly turn their backs upon glory, freedom and happiness?

AFTER ORDERS

The Commander in Chief orders, that the baggage, and camp-equipage of the whole army, except the tents, which are not to be struck 'till further orders, be loaded this evening, and every thing in readiness to move at a moment's warning. The troops supplied with provisions, agreeable to the orders of the 8th. Instant. The Quarter Master General, Commissary General, and Commissary of military stores, to see that every thing in their respective departments be in moving order, all the Horses fixed to their respective waggons.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 11, 1777.

Parole Petersburgh. Countersigns Plymouth, Pompton.

The Commissary General to deliver no rum for guards, or fatigue service, but in the following manner. A gill per man, for all out-guards, and picquets, the order for it to come from the Brigadier of the day—the same allowance for all fatigue parties, either from the line, a division, or brigade; the order for it to come in the first instance, from the Major General of the day, in the second, from the Major General of the division, in the third, from the Brigadier of the brigade. All detachments, and Scouting parties, to have a gill per man for every night they are out; the Major General of the day to give the order for it. A gill a day to all fatigue parties in the Commissary, or Quarter Master General's departments. No other guards, or fatigue, to have any allowance of rum. The

rum for guards not to be issued 'till the duty is over.

All strolling, or suspected persons taken up, to be brought before the Major General of the day.

All guards, or detachments, going towards the enemy, or coming from them, to march in the same order, as if they expected an immediate attack. For this purpose, the officers to be at their proper posts, and the men made to move with regularity. Advanced, rear and flank guards to be sent out in proportion to the strength of the party, and at a greater, or less distance, according to the nature of the ground. As, in advancing towards an enemy, or coming from them, there is always danger of a surprise and attack; precautions should always be taken to be prepared for them; and were not this the case, good habits will be introduced, by acting in this manner when there is little or no occasion, which will be serviceable when there is; and both officers and men will be taught their duty.

All strolling Sutlers immediately to quit the camp, or their liquors &c. will be taken from them, and distributed among the soldiers without any compensation. Each Brigadier to notify those about his encampment with this order.

Genl. Lincoln has permission to clear the loaded pieces of his division, by discharging them this evening at retreat.

All regimental Pay Masters are to attend the Pay Master General on friday—10 o'clock—at his quarters.

Col. De-La Rouerie is appointed to the command of the Corps, heretofore under Major Ottendorff.

The commanding officer of each corps is to report every

Deserter from it, immediately to his Brigadier, who is to pursue, without loss of time, the most vigorous measures, to have the offenders apprehended; and is to give an account of the matter, to the Major General of the day, who is to draw the whole into one view, in his report of occurrences to the Commander in Chief. Strict attention it is expected will be paid to this order.

The order some time ago issued at Morristown, forbidding Waggoners to gallop and strain horses, is but little attended to. The Quarter Master General will therefore inform those people, of the consequences of disobedience.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 12, 1777.

Parole Queenborough. Countersigns Quibble-town, Quebec. The General thinks it necessary to establish the following regulations for guards; and hopes that officers will consider them as the rule of practice, and make themselves well acquainted with them.

When any guard arrives at the post assigned it, the officer's first care must be, to plant his Sentries properly, according to circumstances. The guard should remain *under arms* while this is doing; and if it be at an outpost, or any where near the enemy, temporary Sentries should be placed, at a small distance from the guard, to prevent surprise; while the commanding officers reconnoitre the situation of the post, to know where his sentries should be placed, for a continuance. This is to be done, in case the ground has not been before hand examined, and particular directions given about the matter; or in case he does not relieve some other guard.

But if he relieves another, he is to receive all the

orders, given to the officer of the old guard in writing; which, together with those he may have received from the Brigadier and Field Officers of the day, he is punctually to observe. If any differences between them arises, he is to obey the latter in preference.

He is immediately to send a party under a trusty officer, conducted by an officer of the old guard, to relieve the Sentries, who are to return to the guard they belong to.

If the guard be of such a nature, as that other matters, other than the security of a post are intrusted to it, they must be contained in a written report, and an officer of the new, accompanied with one of

the old, must be sent to take them in charge, comparing the things themselves with the report, and seeing that all is right.

The Sentries of the old guard having joined it, the officer is to march it back to the parade, from which it went, with the greatest order, and decorum, and thence send off the detachments composing it, under an officer to each, to join their corps, preserving regularity on their way.

After placing his Sentries, the officer of the new guard is to make his men lodge their arms, first giving them the orders necessary, to govern their conduct. Care must be taken to lodge their arms, in such a manner, that each man may have recourse to his in a moment, without bustle or confusion. In most cases it is best, the arms should be grounded on the guard-parade, during the day. No man to put off his accoutements, on any pretence.

This done the commanding officer, attended by a couple of men, is to visit all his Sentries; to see that they are

posted right, and instruct them in the line of their duty.

His next care is, to take such precautions for the security of his post, by forming abatties, digging ditches, and raising parapets, as circumstances require, to guard against surprise, or repel any sudden attempt.

He should make himself acquainted, not only with all the great roads leading to the enemy, or to the army he belongs to; but he should search out, every by-path, and avenue, by which he may the more securely send his parties, to reconnoitre the enemy, or make his retreat good in any emergency.

He should have scouting parties all day, and patroles all night, going towards the enemy, in his rear, and upon his flanks, to gain intelligence of their motions, and give timely notice of any attempt they may be making. If this notice can be given without firing it will be best; if not, it must be done by firing, the scouts, or patroles, retreating by way of the Sentries, to alarm them.

Visiting rounds should be going all night, to see that the Sentries are at their posts, alert, and acquainted with every particular of their duty.

The break of day being the most favorable time for an attack, or surprise, a good officer will be careful to turn out his guard *under arms* 'till an hour after sunrise, and to have his visiting rounds, and patroles going then more than ordinary. From watching through the night, men

towards morning grow drowsy, secure and listless; and are the more liable to a surprise. An officer's reputation calls upon him to guard carefully against this evil.

A guard is bound to maintain its post as long as possible, but if likely to be overpowered with numbers, it is at

least to make a skirmishing retreat, firing all the way it goes to give the alarm, and taking advantage of every defile, morass, wood, or advantageous spot it can find, to delay the enemy. If the enemy do not pursue, but retire after having dislodged the guard, it is to resume its post, first taking measures to be sure that all is safe.

If two guards are so posted as to have the same object in view, and depend upon each other; they must be attentive to every thing that befals one another, and act in concert. If either is attacked, the other must not only put itself in a posture of defence, but must keep patroles continually going, to bring intelligence of what is doing. If the one attacked retreats, the other must retreat also. If it returns, the other must return in like manner. These things however to depend upon circumstances, and the orders of the Brigadier and Field Officer of the day.

Any parties of whatsoever kind, coming towards an out-guard, are to be stopped by the out Sentries, and notice given to the guard; which is in most cases to be turned out; and the officer to send a proper person to examine such party, and give his orders accordingly.

All flags to be stopped at the out Sentries. The officer of the guard to meet them there, and know their business. If they are charged with letters, or any matters that can be communicated to him, he is to receive and transmit them immediately to the Major General of the day—otherwise the flag must wait 'till information can be sent to the said Major General, and his orders received.

No officer, or soldier to sleep a single moment on guard.

No cooking to go on while on guard. The men must either carry their provisions ready dressed, or have them sent to them, the former preferable.

No man to presume to be out of call, without permission from the officer, who is not to suffer more than two at a time to be absent, nor those at the out-posts.

In case of desertion, from the outposts, the officer from whose party it happens, immediately to change the countersign, advertising the other out guards of it, who are to conform thereto. He is also to send instantly, and acquaint the Brigadier of the day with it.

All guards to turn out to the Brigadier and Field Officers of the day, and, except the out-guards, to all General officers; paying them the honors due them according to their rank, and the usage of war. The out-guards to turn out to the Brigadier and Field officers only. The honors of the drum never to be paid by them.

All guards to turn out to receive the grand rounds. The officer of each, to prepare an evening report, for the officer of the rounds.

All guards of the line, when relieved, to make a report of every occurrence that may have happened, to one of the field officers of the day, who is to attend at, or near the grand parade, to receive it when the guard returns.

Arms after this wet weather to be carefully inspected, and put in the best possible order for use.

AFTER ORDERS

The Brigade Commissaries are to receive their

orders from the Commissary General this afternoon, respecting the mode of supplying their respective brigades, in case of a sudden move. The Assistant Quarter Masters are to do the same with Col. Biddle, that no complaints, or confusion may arise upon a march.

Instead of delivering spare ammunition to each brigade, Genl. Knox will furnish the divisions with it, in order to lessen the number of carriages, and conveying it more securely. If the Quarter Master General would furnish each brigade with a proper number of Scythes for forraging, the horses might be better provided for.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 13, 1777.

Parole Rockingham. Countersigns Romney, Rye.

At a General Court Martial, held the 9th Inst. whereof Col. Marshall[54] was President, Capt. Jesse Roe[55] was tried for "Insulting and ill-treating Mr. Calclough Conductor of waggons, on the march from Morristown," acquitted, and justified by the court.

The General approves the sentence, and orders Capt. Roe to be released from his arrest with honor. He also approves the sentence of the same Court Martial held the 11th Instant, before which Alexander Brandon, of the 1st. Pennsylvania regiment was tried for “Horse-stealing,” and acquitted. The prisoner is to be immediately released from confinement.

Different modes of promotion having prevailed

54. Col. Thomas Marshall, of the Third Virginia Regiment. He resigned in December, 1777.

55. Capt. Jesse Roe, of Flower's Artillery Artificers. He resigned in January, 1778.

in the army, productive of confusion and discontent in many instances, The Commander in Chief thinks it necessary to establish the following general rule to prevent all further disputes and inconveniencies on this head.

All commissioned officers to rise regimentally, and according to seniority, 'till they arrive to the rank of captain; and from that, in the line of the State they belong to, by seniority also, 'till they attain the rank of Colonel. This rule however to admit of exceptions, where particular officers signalize themselves by a conduct of extraordinary merit, or where others prove themselves unworthy of preferment by the want, or neglect of cultivating, any qualification requisite to constitute the good officer.

Ten men, fit for the purpose, from each brigade, to parade this evening, 6 o'clock at Col. Biddle's[56] quarters to form a company of pioneers. He is to provide them with a sufficient number of proper officers, and with every thing necessary, to qualify them, for doing their duty immediately, in case of a march of the army. They are to encamp near his quarters.

AFTER ORDERS

Such rifles as belong to the States, in the different brigades, to be immediately exchanged with Col. Morgan for musquets. Officers commanding brigades are desired to pay attention to this matter, as the nature of the service requires the utmost dispatch. If a sufficient number of rifles (public property) can not be procured, the Brigadiers are requested to assist Col. Morgan, either by exchanging, or purchasing those that are private property.

Those brigades that have not furnished the number of riflemen, returned to the Adjutant General, for Colonel Morgan's Corps, are desired to send them immediately.

56. Col. Clement Biddle, Deputy Quartermaster General; Commissary of Forage, July 1, 1777; quartermaster general of Pennsylvania from Sept, 11, 1781, to close of the war.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle Brook, June 14, 1777.

Parole Salisbury. Countersigns Sheffield, Somerset.

As the enemy appear, from different quarters, to be in motion, it is necessary that the army be in readiness to march, it is therefore ordered, that the tents be immediately struck; the baggage and camp equipage loaded; the horses [harnessed] to the waggons, and all the men paraded at their respective encampments, ready to move at a moment's warning.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle Brook, June 15, 1777.

Parole Virginia. Countersigns Vanests, Vienna.

As it is proper the mode of performing and receiving the Grand rounds, should be the same throughout the Army, as well for the sake of security, as uniformity and order. In future the following is that, which is to be pursued.

The Field officer of the grand rounds, before he begins his visits, to procure such an escort as he chuses, not exceeding a Serjt. and six—Accompanied by these, he is to pass all the Sentries, remote from the guard, by his Serjeant, who is to advance for the purpose answering “Grand Rounds” when hailed, and giving the Countersign.

When he arrives near the guard, the Sentry next to it hails, and upon being answered “Grand Rounds”—cries “Stand Grand Rounds” and calls the guard to turn out—When this is done, the officer of the guard sends a commissioned officer (if the

guard consists of more than one) if not, a Serjeant and six to meet the Rounds, who, when arrived within twelve paces of them, challenges and on being answered “Grand rounds” cries “Advance officer with the parole” at the same time making his party open a passage by wheeling backwards

from the Centre, for the officer of the rounds to pass through them, and resting their firelocks, as he passes—The officer, or serjeant conducts him to the officer of the guard, who receives him at the right of his guard with his Bayonet towards his breast, at which time the officer of the rounds, whispers the parole in his ear The officer of the guard finding the parole true, orders his guard to rest their firelocks, upon which the officer of the rounds goes along the front of the guard, and after counting them, asking such questions, and giving such instructions, as he thinks proper, orders the officer to return his guard, and rejoins his escort, with which, he is to proceed where he thinks proper.

Complaints having been made to the Commander in Chief, that some officers, fond of any pretext, to get out of the way of their duty, obtrude themselves upon the hospitals, without answering any useful end, but rather serving to embarrass and take up room that might be better employed. He orders that not more than one officer attend any hospital unless by application from one of the Directors or Physicians and Surgeons General of the army; and that officer to be a discreet, sensible man, whose business it shall be to observe the treatment of the sick, and report any neglect or mismanagement he may discover. He is also to assist in supporting good order among the soldiers; but is to exercise no authority, inconsistent with that perfect controul

the doctors should have over their patients. All supernumerary officers immediately to repair to their respective corps.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 16, 1777.

Parole Williamsburgh. Countersigns Wilmington, Windsor.

The General Court Martial, held the 13th Instant, having reconsidered their proceedings of the 3rd and being still of their former opinion for acquitting Lieut. Myers of the German Battalion. The General directs that he be acquitted, and released from arrest.

The commanding officer nearest any hospital is to furnish a prudent good officer, to assist in the government of it, so far as it relates to keeping the convalescent soldiers in order; having proper guards, and the like; and to see that justice is done to the sick, reporting any neglect, or abuses they may observe, first to the chief director of the hospital, and then, if not remedied, to the commanding officer of the post from which he was sent, who, if he thinks the representation just, is to communicate them to the Commander in Chief.

The army not to omit exercising every day, as heretofore practiced. A thing so essential is never to be neglected, unless in such circumstances as render it impossible.

All parties whatsoever, from thirty upwards, marching under arms, to march by sub or grand divisions, unless where the nature of the ground, or any particular disposition, makes a different mode necessary. The officers to be very attentive, that their men keep their ranks always dressed, and use their feet in concert,

which are equally conducive to the order, beauty, strength and expedition of a marching body.

For the sake of regularity, 'till a more eligible mode shall be pointed out, officers are to salute in the following manner only. For a standing salute, they are to order their fusees, and take off their hats gracefully, bringing the arm down close to the left side, until the person saluted passes. For a marching salute, they are to trail their fusees, and take off their hats as in the foregoing. In both cases, 'tis supposed they have their fusees rested on their left arms; from which they perform the order or trail, the first in three, and the last in two motions; and afterwards return their fusees, to the same position. In the order, they hold out their fusees, in a line with themselves, with an easy extended arm.

All regimental pay-Masters are ordered immediately to join their respective corps, or they may depend on being punished and displaced. No excuse, but sickness, and that properly certified, will be admitted for eluding this order.

No regimental pay-Master in future to absent himself from Camp on any pretence whatever, without leave of the Commander in Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 17, 1777.

Parole Aberdeen. Countersigns Amboy, Aimwell.

The Surgeon General is to give passes to all persons belonging to his department.

Two officers, from those regiments who have Sick, in the hospital near camp, to attend the same for the purpose pointed out in the order of yesterday.

An orderly Serjeant to be appointed in each company, to take a list every morning of the sick belonging to it, and report them to the regimental officer of the day, who is to make a general report to the Surgeon of the regiment. The orderly Serjeant to attend the Surgeon, distribute medicines, and do every thing necessary according to his orders.

A proportionate number of women to the sick of each regiment to be sent to the hospitals at Mendham and Black River, to attend the sick as nurses.

Whenever prisoners are sent to the Provost, the evidences against them to be inserted in the charge; which will save much unnecessary trouble and delay.

The General Court Martial whereof Col Marshall was president is dissolved; And another General Court Martial to sit to morrow morning at 9 o'Clock, at the usual place (General Wayne's brigade) to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All Evidences to attend. Col. Stevens[69] to preside.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 18, 1777.

Parole Boundbrook. Countersigns Bedford, Boston.

Timothy Pickering Esqr. is appointed Adjutant General to the Continental Army. He is to be obeyed and respected as such. The General begs Col. Connor to accept his thanks, for his obliging and punctual discharge of the office, for the time he has acted as such.

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69. Col. Edward Stevens, of the Tenth Virginia Regiment. He resigned in January, 1778; became brigadier general and major general of Virginia Militia in I779; was wounded at Guilford Courthouse, N. C., in March, 1781.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 19, 1777.

Parole Chatham. Countersigns Cumberland, Carlisle.

The Quarter Master of each regiment is to draw provisions for such sick as remain with the regiments; for which purpose they are to be included, and their numbers ascertained, in each provision return. The Commissary will supply them with fresh meat when on hand.

The General Court Martial now sitting, will proceed forthwith to the trial of Major Peers,[83] Brigade Major to General Weedon, arrested by order of Col. Spotswood, for "Refusing a true and just return of his regiment, and sending him a very insulting message by his Adjutant." All witnesses to attend.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 20, 1777.

Parole Dartmouth. Countersigns Deal, Derby.

Each Captain, or commanding officer of a company, is to make out immediately, an exact Size-Roll of his company, according to which his men are ever to be drawn up; and when formed in two ranks, the shortest men are always to be placed in the front, by which means the firing will be rendered easier, and the effect more certain.

The Commander in Chief approves the following Sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 18th and 19th instant, whereof Col Stevens was president; and orders them to be put in execution forthwith—viz:

William Butler of Col. Thomas Hartley's regiment,

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83. Maj. Valentine Peers.

and Capt. William Nichol's Company, charged with "Desertion and forging passes"—found guilty of the charge, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes.

Richard Hurley of the 7th. Pennsylvania regimt. charged with "Desertion"—found guilty of the charge, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes, on his bare back, well laid on.

Alexander McDonald of the 7th. Pennsylvania regt. charged with "Desertion"—found guilty, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back; and to be sent on board one of the Continental Frigates to serve during the war.

Ensign Pope[84] , of the 10th. Virginia Regt. charged with “Not attending his duty on the parade”—acquitted, and ordered to be forthwith discharged from his arrest.

Lieut. Booker[85] of the 10th. Virginia Regt. charged with “attending tending the parade drunk”—found guilty of the charge, and sentenced to be reprimanded by the Colonel of the regiment he belongs to, in the presence of the officers.

John Rowley, of Col. Patton's Regt. charged with “Deserting, and going to the English”—found guilty of deserting, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back, and to be sent on board one of the Continental Frigates, to serve for the time he is inlisted for.

Michael Reynolds, of the 5th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Deserting towards the enemy”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes, on the bare back, well laid on, and to be sent on board one of the Continental Frigates, to serve for the time he is inlisted for.

William Pannell, of Capt. McGowen's[86] Company,

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84. Ensign John Pope. He resigned in July, 1777, and was a colonel of Virginia Militia in 1781.

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85. Lieut. Ralph Booker. He resigned in July, 1777.

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86. Capt. John McGowan. He became a brigade major; was wounded at Germantown, Pa.; was transferred to the Invalid Regiment; served to the close of the war.

in the 4th. Pennsylvania Regt. charged with “Deserting from his regiment, and endeavouring to go to the enemy”—found guilty and sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back.

Alexander McDonald, John Rowley and Michael Reynolds, who are sentenced to be put on board some of the Continental Frigates, are, after receiving their punishment, still to be detained prisoners by the Provost Marshal, 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle Brook, June 21, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

Col Sherburne's detachment, at present with Genl. Parsons, is to join Genl. Varnum's brigade.

Genl. De Barre's brigade to get ready to march to morrow morning, at 5 o'clock—He will send to the Adjutant General for orders to march.

Genl. Varnum's brigade to relieve the picquets at Van Nest's Mill, and Van Veghten's bridge, at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

A detachment of 900 men and twelve light horsemen, with proper officers, to furnish themselves with three days provisions, cooked, and parade at 2 o'clock this afternoon, behind the park of Artillery, completely armed, accoutered and furnished with ammunition, and with their blankets slung—Brigadier General Maxwell will command the detachment—The Monmouth Militia to go with the detachment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle Brook, June 22, 1777.

Parole Farquhar. Countersigns Farnham, Fairfield.

The out guards, or picquets from the line, to be called in immediately, and not relieved.

One regiment (Col. Spotswood's) of General Weedon's brigade to take post in General Wayne's encampment, and mount a Subaltern's guard at the gap near the encampment.

The regiments of Genl Muhlenberg's brigade, now at Steel's gap, will remain there and mount a Subaltern's guard.

The brigades of the line to furnish the other guard, besides their own quarter guards.

AFTER ORDERS

Every brigade and corps of the army immediately to draw three days provisions, and cook them, and parade to morrow morning at 6 o'clock (if it should not rain) with arms, accoutrements, ammunition and blankets, ready to march. Tents, baggage and women to be left in camp, for the security of which each division is to leave a field officer, each brigade a Captain, and each regiment a Subaltern, Serjt. Corporal and twelve men. These guards to consist of men most unfit for duty, and who have

the worst arms. The Major Generals will receive orders at Head-Quarters, respecting their route, and order of march.

The Commander in Chief thanks the Majors General Sullivan and Greene, and all the officers, and soldiers, engaged this day, to pursue the enemy, for their alacrity and zeal manifested in that service.

Major Peers, Brigade Major to Genl. Weedon's brigade, charged with “Refusing a true and just Return of Colol. Spotswood's regiment; and sending him a very insulting answer by his Adjutant,” tried by a General Court Martial, held the

20th. instant, and honorably acquitted. The Commander in Chief approves the Sentence, and orders him to be immediately discharged from his arrest.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 23, 1777.

Parole Gloucester. Countersigns Gravesend, Guilford.

The Commander in Chief approves the following Sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 20th. instant, whereof Col Stevens was president; and orders them to be put in execution forthwith—viz:

Thomas White, alias Jones, of Col. Hartley's battalion, charged with “Desertion,” the prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to receive 50 lashes on his bare back.

Alexander Gray, of the 5th. Pennsylva. Regt. charged with “Desertion,” found guilty, and sentenced to receive 50 lashes, on his bare back.

Levi Bloxom, of the 9th. Virginia Regt. charged with “Insolence to, and threatning to shoot Ensign Robbins of the same regiment,” found guilty and sentenced to receive 39 lashes on his bare back.

James McCarl, of the 5th. Pennsylvania Regiment charged with “Insulting and charging his bayonet on the officer of the ferry guard at Trenton, and presenting his piece at Lieut. Smith,[13] of the 5th. Pennsylvania regt. in the face of the whole regiment,” found guilty of “presenting his piece at Lieut Smith, in the face of the whole regiment,” and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back.

13. Lieut. Samuel(?) Smith. He seems to have been promoted to captain Mar. 1, 1777.

charged with “Insulting and charging his bayonet on the officer of the ferry guard at Trenton.”
No evidence appearing to support the charge against the prisoner, The Court ordered him to be discharged from confinement for the present.

The following letter received from Col. Spotswood.

Middle-Brook, June 23, 1777.

Sir. Although the Court Martial acquitted Major Peers with *honor* ; yet I think something remains to be done on my side, for the injury done that gentleman; you'll therefore oblige me by putting the inclosed concession in the next general orders. Your obt. Servt.

Alexr. Spotswood Col.

Col Spotswood being convinced that he was wrong, in putting Major Peers under an arrest, is extremely sorry for it.

To Col. Pickering Adjutant General.

AFTER ORDERS

The Militia of the State of New-Jersey, who assembled upon the late alarm by signals, are dismissed; with the cordial thanks of the Commander in Chief for the readiness with which they turned out, and the spirit and bravery they have shewn in harrassing the enemy; and preventing their incursions: Such manly exertions in the Militia must prove highly discouraging to the enemy; and while the same spirit remains, no danger is to be apprehended from their future attempts.

The rain having prevented the execution of a part of the after orders of yesterday, every brigade and corps of the army is to parade to morrow morning at 4 o'clock, if it should not rain; those after orders in other respects to be punctually complied with.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Quibble-town, June 24, 1777.

Parole Hartford. Countersigns Hatfield, Huntington.

In case of an alarm, the army is to be drawn up in two lines on the northern side of the brook, Genl. Greene's division on the right, Genl. Lincoln's on the left of the front line; Genl. Stephens's division on the right of the second line, and Brig: Genl: Parsons's brigade on the left of the second line; to be joined by Genl. Varnum's, when he comes up. The troops to make the best shelter they can, with boughs of trees.

An alarm will be made by the firing of two field pieces, at the park of Artillery, upon which the whole army is to muster and take the ground shewn to the Brigadiers General, with all possible dispatch—The park of Artillery to form in the Centre of the first line.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Quibble-town, June 25, 1777.

Parole Isleington. Countersigns Italy, Inverness.

The picquets to be relieved this day at 10 o'clock A.M. To morrow at 8 o'clock, the usual hour.

Whenever any firing, or any thing else unusual in the Camp is permitted by the Major General of the day; he is immediately

to report it to the Commander in Chief; to prevent any unnecessary enquiries into the causes of it.

The officers are always to take the most particular care that no damage be done to the property of the Inhabitants where the troops are encamped. The inevitable distresses of war, are so great and numerous, that any addition to them must be deemed to proceed from barbarity and wantoness alone; more especially in us by whom that property was designed, and ought to be protected.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle Brook, June 26, 1777.

Parole Japan. Countersigns Jamaica, Jamestown.

The troops are to complete three days provisions of bread and flour, as soon as possible; and but one day's provision of flesh, if it be fresh, or three days provisions of Salt meat, if to be had, and to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning. They will lodge themselves in the best manner they can this night, near the gaps of the mountains. From every gap, proper picquets are to be posted and patroles sent out during the night.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle Brook, June 27, 1777.

Parole Kilkenny. Countersigns Kingston, Kildare.

The commanding officers of corps, who have men in the provost guard, against whom sentences have been past, and approved, are, without delay to see those sentences executed.

It being necessary to determine the ranks of Col. Bland, and Col. Moylan, Colonels of Horse; Major Generals Sullivan, Greene, Lord Stirling, Stephen and Lincoln are appointed a Court to inquire into the matter, hear the pretensions of the parties, and determine their rank. The court to sit this afternoon at 5 o'clock, at Genl. Greene's quarters; any three of them to be a quorum.

The Commander in Chief earnestly desires, that General Officers, in case of an action, or the appearance of one will (when practicable) send all their orders either in writing, or by an Aide-de-Camp, or Brigade Major, to prevent the unintelligible and contradictory directions, which are too often conveyed, and may prove fatal to the views and designs of the commanding officer.

Intelligence of the enemy's movements, and approach they are also requested to communicate in the same manner to the officer commanding; otherwise it will be impossible for him to make a proper disposition, as the goodness of this must depend upon the certainty and precision of the information.

All officers at out-posts are to govern themselves by this order, so far as it will apply to their case.

The General directs an immediate return to be made to the Adjutant General of the killed, wounded and missing since Sunday last, inclusively.

For the future, the commanding officers of corps are, as soon as possible, to make exact Returns to the Adjutant General of all the killed, wounded, and missing, belonging to their respective corps (Specifying their ranks) and of the times when, and places where such events shall happen. Such commanding officers, and also, the commanding officers of parties, are, from time to time, to

make the like exact returns of all prisoners they shall take from the enemy, and as soon as possible after the capture.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle Brook, June 28, 1777.

Parole Lancaster. Countersigns London, Ludlow.

The several regiments are to send for their tents, and pitch them where they are now posted.

Orderly Serjeants to attend at Head-Quarters as usual.

All Chaplains are to perform divine service tomorrow, and on every succeeding Sunday, with their respective brigades and regiments, where the situation will possibly admit of it. And the commanding officers of corps are to see that they attend; themselves, with officers of all ranks, setting the example. The Commander in Chief expects an exact compliance with this order, and that it be observed in future as an invariable rule of practice—And every neglect will be considered not only a breach of orders, but a disregard to decency, virtue and religion.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle Brook, June 29, 1777.

Parole Manchester. Countersigns Milton, Medford.

The Quarter Master General is to make a proper distribution of waggons among the brigades and corps of the army, and in proportion to their respective numbers, to ascertain which he will apply to the Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Middle-Brook, June 30, 1777.

Parole Nedham. Countersigns Newton, Nassau.

A special Court Martial to sit to morrow morning at 9 O'clock, at the usual place (near Genl. Wayne's quarters) for the trial of Major Steward[42] of the 2nd. Maryland Regt. Col. David Hall is appointed president of this court—All witnesses to attend.

All commanding officers who have in their Corps any noncommissioned officers, or soldiers, that were originally inlisted into the regiment lately commanded by Col. Smallwood, are, on demand to deliver them to Col. Stone, who now commands the same regiment, upon his making it appear, that they were so inlisted.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle Brook, July 1, 1777.

Parole Oronoque. Countersigns Orange, Ormond.

A General Court Martial to sit to morrow morning, at 9 o'clock, at the usual place, for the trial of such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All witnesses to attend. Col Walter Stewart[53] is appointed president of this court. The late Court Martial, of which Col. Stevens was president is dissolved.

The several troops and detachments of Col Bland's lighthorse, are to assemble forthwith at their Colonel'squatters. The Colonel will apply to the Quarter Master General to assign a place where the regiment may get forage to recruit their horses.

A return of the sick in camp, of the different regiments, to be made to the Surgeon General of the army, every Tuesday

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42. Maj. John Stewart. He was taken prisoner on Staten Island, N.Y., Aug. 22, 1777; was lieutenant colonel of the First Maryland Regiment in February, 1781; died in December, 1782, lie was presented with a silver medal by Congress (July 26, 1779) for his gallantry in the assault on Stony Point, N.Y.

53. Col. Walter Stewart, of a Pennsylvania State regiment, which was designated the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Regiment in November, 1777. He was transferred to the Second Pennsylvania Regiment in July, 1778, retired in January, 1783; served subsequently as a sub-inspector of the Continental Army until the close of the war.

and Friday, at 9 o'clock in the morning, specifying the men's names, diseases, and the companies they belong to. These returns to be signed by the regimental Surgeons.

Jonathan Mifflin Esqr. and Henry Emanuel Lutterlo Esqr. are appointed Deputy Quarter Master's General for this army, with the rank of Colonel, and are to be respected and obeyed as such.

Clement Biddle Esqr. is appointed Commissary General of forage for this army.

Notwithstanding the order of June 3rd. The General is informed that many officers are turning their horses into fields of grain and grass, and giving assurances to the proprietors of them, that the damage done shall be paid for by the Quarter-Master General. When he recollects the orders already given, and considers the variety of distresses under which the Inhabitants of New Jersey are still groaning; The General is astonished to find that neither duty, honor, nor humanity can restrain officers from so cruel and unlawful a practice-He therefore once more, in the most pointed and positive terms forbids it, and orders that no horse be turned into any field whatever, without license first obtained from the Quarter-Master General, or some person acting under his authority. After this second notice, any officers, offending, upon complaint being made, may rest assured that they shall not only be answerable for the damage done, but brought before a Court Martial for disobedience of orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Middle Brook, July 2, 1777.

Parole Pluckemin. Countersigns Princeton, Pelham.

The whole army is to get ready to march to morrow morn at 6 o'clock, with the tents and baggage, all property put up in the waggons. But if it should rain the tents are not to be struck. The two regiments ordered to be detached from Lord Stirling's division towards the Sound, are not included; but are to wait for further orders.[60]

The Hon: Congress having been pleased to order and direct, that a Deputy Quarter Master General should be appointed to each division of the army, and an Assistant to each Brigade; and left the said appointments to the Quarter Master General, with the approbation of the Commander in Chief- They request the Major General and Brigadiers of each division to recommend a proper person to discharge the duties of Deputy Quarter Master General in their respective divisions; and the Brigadier and commanding officer of each regiment to recommend an Assistant in their brigade. In doing this, proper care and circumspection it is hoped will be used, as the comfort and good order of each division and brigade, will, in a great measure, depend upon the knowledge, activity and care of the persons they make choice of.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 4, 1777.

Parole Ridgefield. Countersigns Ringwood, Raway.

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60. The order of march from Middlebrook to Morristown, in the writing of and signed by Timothy Pickering, Adjutant General of the Continental Army, dated July 3, 1777, is in the *Washington Papers*.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 2nd. Inst., whereof Colonel Stewart was president, and orders them to be put in execution forthwith—viz:

George Deal of Col Armand's Independent Corps, charged with “Desertion” found guilty, and sentenced to receive 39 lashes.

Charles Mulley[69] of the 1st. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Deserting, and inlisting in another corps,” It appearing to the Court that he had been already tried, and acquitted, by virtue of General Washington's proclamation; they were of opinion that the prisoner should be released from confinement—It is ordered to be done accordingly.

Charles Grifinger of Col Armand's Independent Corps, charged with deserting from that corps, and likewise with having deserted from the 11th. Pennsylv. regt., found guilty, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back, for deserting from Col Armand's Independent Corps, and also to receive 50 lashes for deserting from the 11th. Pennsylv. regiment.

John Gunsell of Col Armand's Independent Corps, charged with “Desertion,” found guilty, and sentenced to receive 39 lashes on his bare back.

David Klein of Col Armand's Independent Corps, charged with “Desertion,” pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to receive 39 lashes.

Wilhelm Dorn of Col Armand's Independent Corps, charged with “Desertion,” pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to receive 39 lashes.

Michael McGuire Serjeant in the 1st. Pennsylv. regiment, charged with “Suffering his guard to sleep, and sleeping

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69. Charles Meloy (Mulley, Malloy), of Capt. James Parr's company.

himself, by which means a prisoner deserted to the enemy, with arms and accoutrements,” found guilty of suffering his guards to sleep and sleeping himself, by which means a prisoner escaped from his guard; and sentenced to be reduced to the ranks.

William Fogg a Soldier in the 15th Virginia Regiment, charged with “Desertion.” The Court are of opinion the prisoner is not guilty of the charge brought against him; he is forthwith to be released from confinement.

The same Court Martial is to sit again to morrow, at 9 o'clock in the morning, at the house where Capt. Dickinson formerly kept tavern.

As it is impossible to tell with certainty how soon, or how suddenly the army may be called upon to march (as it is an event dependent upon the enemy's movements) The General orders that no officer, or soldier shall be absent from Camp, but that every thing be held in the most perfect readiness, except striking of tents.

As no opportunity can be more favorable than the present, to get rid of all heavy baggage; the General once more strongly urges the officers to store what they can possibly spare, at Morristown. If after this second notice they continue to fill and 'cumber waggons with old tables, chests, chairs &c: they are not to be surprised if they are left in the field: This must be the inevitable consequence of a scarcity or failure of teams.

No fences are to be destroyed, nor horses turned into fields of grain, or grass, before they are appropriated by the Quarter Master General, who will also direct where wood is to be had, that some of the waggons of each brigade may be employed in hauling of it to their encampments.

After Orders will issue at 4 o'clock this afternoon, for the better regulation of the troops, waggons &c upon a march, at which time all the Brigade Majors will attend the Adjutant General, that they may distribute them as soon as possible.

The General observed yesterday, that waggons were very unequally loaded—The Waggon Masters have now an opportunity of attending to that matter; and for the future to see the loads properly adjusted.

AFTER ORDERS

When the order is given to march, and the men are paraded for that purpose, the rolls are to be called; and the commanding officer of each corps is to see that his men are all present, or know with certainty where and why they are absent.

When they are told into Sub-divisions, in platoons, and officers assigned to each, such officers are to abide constantly with them; and upon a march see that no man is suffered to quit his rank, upon any occasion, without a non-commissioned officer with him, who is to bring him to his place again.

Whenever a halt is made, and the ranks are suffered to be broken, in order for the men to sit, or refresh themselves, the officers commanding each division, as above, is, so soon as they are ordered *to Arms* again, to see that they have every man of their division in his place.

If either of the Major Generals, in their respective divisions, should see any apparent cause for a halt, before the time, or place designed for it; he is to send an Aide-de-Camp

to the commanding officer, with his reasons for it, who, if he judges it expedient, will order it accordingly.

When a march is to begin, after a halt, the drummers are to beat the first division of the foot march, to be taken from front to rear; and upon the last *flam* of the first division being struck, the whole are to move.

If any man falls sick, or lame, and is therefore unable to walk, the officer commanding the Sub-division or platoon in which he is, is immediately to send notice thereof, to his Brigadier, or officer

commanding the brigade, who is to order the Waggon Master of his brigade, to provide a birth for him in some waggon under his care.

And as it is impossible that good government and order can be preserved, unless every officer will take his share of duty, and be attentive to the discharge of it; the Commander in Chief directs, that upon a march, the Major Generals do not quit their divisions; the Brigadiers their brigades; the Colonels their regiments, nor other officers their respective divisions; unless it be in cases of absolute necessity, by order, or with leave; each watching with a careful eye, the conduct of all those under his command. It is unreasonable to expect regularity and good order in the common Soldiers, if the example is not set by the officers; nor can an officer with propriety punish a Soldier for a disregard of any order, which he dispenses with himself. It would be a happy pride, and a most laudable ambition, to see the commanding officers of corps vieing with each other in discipline and good behaviour.

As much irregularity in many instances was observed on the march yesterday, particularly with respect to

the guards, women and waggons; The General further orders that the following regulations be observed—viz:

1st. That when the baggage waggons accompany the army, and form part of the line of march, no regiment do allot more than two men as a guard to each waggon; and that these men be under the care of a subaltern, or non-commissioned officer, as the Colonel, or commanding officer of the regiment may choose, and the case may require: That each brigade furnish a Captain, to superintend these; and (where the baggage of the whole division moves together) each division a field officer.

2nd. That the two men assigned to each waggon, shall march on the sides, but as far back as the tail, of each waggon; that if any thing falls out, they may discover, and pick it up—The Subaltern, or non-commissioned is to be about the center of his regimental waggons; the captain about the same place of those of the brigade, and the field officer in that of the division.

3rd. That no women shall be permitted to ride in any waggon, without leave in writing from the Brigadier to whose brigade she belongs: And the Brigadiers are requested to be cautious in giving leave to those who are able to walk—Any women found in a waggon contrary to this regulation, is to be immediately turned out by the Quarter Master General, Waggon Master General, or any of their Assistants, in the division or brigade to which the waggon appertains; as also by any of the officers who command the baggage guard of such waggons. If any interruption is given to the execution of this order, the name and regiment of the person giving it is to be reported to the General.

4th. None but spare arms, and such as belong to sick and lame

men, shall be suffered to go in waggons, as they are almost certain of receiving some injury. Or if any drummer presumes to put his drum into a waggon, unless under similar circumstances—The Soldier or drummer so offending, shall be immediately flogged by any officer commanding the baggage guard of such waggon.

5th. To prevent the enormous abuse and loss of kettles, by slinging them to waggons, from which numbers fall, the General positively orders that each mess in turn carry their own kettle, as usual in all armies, and can be little burthensome in this.

The Waggon Master General is to be permitted with a copy of the order of march, or at least so much of it, as relates to his department, by the Quarter Master General, and in common would do well not to quit the encampment, from whence the army is moving, 'till he sees the waggons in motion, and Waggon Masters assigned to the different brigades of waggons as they march.

The Deputy Waggon Masters are, when they have got their waggons on the move, to see that the head of one waggon is close to the tail of another; and that no stop that can possibly be avoided is suffered, even to water horses, unless at a general halt. They are not to stir from their brigades.

They are also to prevent women from getting into waggons, unless licensed in writing, as before mentioned, by the Brigadier: Nor are they to suffer idle and lazy men, or others to do so, without orders from the officer commanding the brigade to which they are annexed as before mentioned, after the march is commenced.

In all marches they are to restrain the

Waggoners from destroying fences, grain or grass, unless first appropriated by the Quarter Master General, or his Deputy (under whom they act) that restitution may be made the owners.

No officer or soldier, is, under any pretence whatsoever, to impress either horse or waggon, but by order from the Quarter Master General, one of his deputies, or his Brigadier, unless he happens to be upon a seperate command where such application cannot be made, and the service must suffer without. In this case a certificate must be given, specifying the service &c. Any impressments contrary to this mode, will bring officers into a disagreeable situation and severe punishment to the soldiery.

That these orders may be well known and duly attended to, the General directs that every officer, and other persons concerned, provide themselves with copies of them; as the plea of ignorance will be altogether inadmissible.

A General Court Martial is to sit to morrow morning, at 9 o'clock, at the house where Capt. Dickinson lately kept tavern, for the trial of Major Steward of the 2nd Maryland regt. Col. Johnston of the 5th. Pennsylv. regt. is appointed president of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 5, 1777.

Parole Salerno. Countersigns Salem, Stanford.

The Court Martial whereof Col. Stewart is president, is to sit to morrow morning at 9 o'clock. A Serjeant from each brigade to attend the court, to summon witnesses and perform

other necessary services, that greater dispatch may be made in trials.

The several regiments to which any persons, who were selected as pioneers have been returned, as unfit for duty, are forthwith to supply others in their stead. Genl Conway's brigade will also furnish its quota of pioneers. All to be able bodied men fit for the business of pioneers.

The Captains, or commanding officer of every company or troop, must immediately make out a Muster roll for his company, or troop, taken to the last day of June. The troops are to be mustered every month, and with the greatest exactness; therefore the strictest attention must be paid to this duty. The date of every soldiers inlistment, whose first pay has not been drawn, must be inserted in the next Muster-roll. The time for which the men inlisted must be inserted in every future muster roll. The officers will remember, that at every Muster five rolls are to be made out, signed and sworn to by the captain, or commanding officer of the company or troop, and other commissioned officer. The Brigadiers will excuse the regiments from duty the day they are mustered, if circumstances will admit of it.

The firing of two pieces of Artillery, will be a signal for striking tents, and loading the baggage, upon which it is expected that every possible dispatch will be used.

The Quarter Master General will endeavour to have his horses all shod, and in order for a sudden march.

The great complaint for want of shoes, makes it necessary for the General to recommend to the commanding officers of Corps, to use every means in their power to procure this necessary article for their men; and not depend wholly upon the Clothier General, whose resources and opportunities of providing, are not equal to the

demand. Nor does it matter who provides them, as the Soldier is only entitled to a Suit from the public, or the value of it.

The General directs, that each regiment will not delay providing oil for their locks. This is easily made from the offal at the slaughter-pens.

The troops are to be exercised in manœuvring whilst the army lays encamped here. This is to be done in the cool of the day.

The General orders that no Soldier shall bath in the heat of the day, nor stay long in the water at a time.

The Slaughter pens are to be removed from the brooks which afford water for the army. The offal to be buried once a day.

As nothing can be more comfortable and wholesome to the army than vegetables, every encouragement is to be given to the Country people, to bring them in; The least insult, or abuse to any of them coming to, or returning from market will be severely punished.

The General recommends temporary ovens to each brigade, which, by men who understand it, can be erected in a few hours. Bread baked in these, will be much wholesomer than the sodden cakes which are but too commonly used.[70]

The General likewise recommends it to the Brigadiers, and officers commanding brigades, to have Springs sought for, and opened; and barrels sunk in them, for the more conveniently supplying the troops with water.

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70. A camp name for this bread, made without an oven, was the derisive term “fire-cake.”

All commanding officers of corps are to see that proper necessaries are immediately provided for the sake of decency and cleanliness.

Divine Service to be performed to morrow, in all the regiments which have chaplains.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Morristown, July 6, 1777.

Parole Tyringham. Countersigns Trenton, Topsfield.

A Court of enquiry to sit to morrow morning, at some convenient place near the park of Artillery, to inquire into the conduct of the artillery Officers, whose field pieces were lost in the action of the 26th of June last.[80] The Court to consist of five members, Col Brodhead president. The Court is appointed at the request of those officers.

The Commander in Chief has observed, with concern, that notwithstanding the orders of the first of June last, requiring all officers of corps, not sick, or on other duty, to attend the parade daily, at the time of exercise, to learn and perform their duty, yet there is a very great neglect: He wishes it to be impressed upon the mind of every officer, that nothing can be more hurtful to the service, than the neglect of discipline; for that discipline, more than numbers, gives one army the superiority over another: He therefore, in the most positive manner requires all officers to attend the parade, and exercise, agreeably to the orders above mentioned, and that the commanding officers of corps would put under arrest, any who fail of an exact observance of them.

And whenever corps and brigades assemble

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80. At Short Hills, N.J.

for exercise, every officer is to take and keep his proper post; such as have command directing those men only who are under their immediate care, and that in such manner as not to interfere with, or delay the execution of the orders of the exercising officer. Those men who appear to be least acquainted with exercise are daily, when off duty, to be sent to the drill, and particular care taken to instruct them.

And the more effectually to promote military discipline in the army, the officers must set the example of a close attention to that point; assembling frequently each corps by themselves, and

learning with diligence the manual exercise, and the most useful manœuvres, together with the easy salute already directed in General Orders. Such a practice cannot fail of producing the best effects; And nothing can do the officers more honor. They will know their own duty, and what they have a right to expect from all who are under their command. The men excited by the example, will eagerly embrace every opportunity, to improve in the military art; and the whole army be inspired with an emulation to become good soldiers.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 7, 1777.

Parole Virginia. Countersigns Ulster, Upton.

The General expects the strictest attention will be paid to the order of the 20th. of last month for Sizing the men, and placing the shortest in front. Unless this is done, the whole fire of the rear rank will most assuredly be lost, especially if the files should happen (as is but too often the case) to be crowded together.

The Commander in Chief approves the following Sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 6th. instant of which Colonel Walter Stewart was president.

John Halfpenny of the 10th Virginia regt. charged with “Getting drunk, raising a riot, and abusing his officers.” No evidence appearing against the prisoner, the Court ordered him to be released from confinment.

The Court discharged Barney Drum. No crime being exhibited against him.

Herman Wynch of the German Battalion, charged with “Mutiny, neglecting his duty, absenting himself from his company, and refusing to take his arms and accoutrements.” The Court after considering the charge, and evidence, are of opinion the prisoner is guilty of neglecting his duty, absenting himself from his company, and refusing to take his arms and accoutrements, and not guilty of mutinying. Sentenced to receive 39 lashes on his bare back.

Patrick Farrall of the 12th. Pennsyl. regt. in Capt. Brady's Company, charged with “Drunkenness, and assaulting his officer,” found guilty, and sentenced to receive 100 lashes on his bare back.

Robert Grimes of Capt. William Gray's Company, in the 4th. Pennsylv. regt. charged with “Deserting from the said company,” found not guilty of the charge exhibited against him. The Court do adjudge

the prisoner to belong to Capt. Doughty's company, and that the bounty money the prisoner received from Capt. Gray's lieutenant, shall be paid Capt. Gray by Capt. Doughty, and stopped out of the prisoner's pay.

Cornelius McConnoll of the 1st. Pennsylvania regt. charged with “deserting to the enemy,” it appearing by his own confession that he was guilty; but that he was deluded by some bad fellows to go to the enemy, that he inlisted with them, but being sensible of his error, and hearing of Genl. Washington's proclamation, offering pardon to offenders, he deserted from the enemy, and brought off eight with him. That he was pardoned by Genl. McDougall, from whose Brigade Major he produced a pass. For these reasons the Court ordered him to be released from confinement.

Dennis O'Bryan, a Soldier belonging to a detachment of North Carolina troops, under the command of Col. Sumner,[81] charged with “Having deserted from that detachment.” The prisoner pleaded guilty; but it appearing to the Court that he is incapable of rendering any service to the country, as he appears to be debilitated in body, and a stupid, foolish person; they sentenced him to be drumed out of the service.

Peter Norris of the 5th. New Jersey regiment charged with “Desertion.” No evidence appearing against the prisoner, the Court ordered him to be released from confinement.

Lewis Reed, Israel Turner and Henry Blaracum, of the 5th New Jersey regt. charged severally with “Desertion.” No evidence appearing against the prisoners, the Court ordered them to be released from confinement.

It being injurious to the health of the Soldiers on account of the foulness of the water and utterly inconsistent with decency, for them to bathe in the Mill pond, by Howel's mill, near the highway leading from Head Quarters, to the Court

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81. Col. Jethro Sumner, of the Third North Carolina Regiment.

House; that practice is absolutely forbidden, and the guard and Sentries posted near thereto are to take up and confine all offenders.

Col Morgan's Corps of rifle-men not being annexed to any brigade, and being often detached from the army, are to draw their rations from time to time of the nearest commissary.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 8, 1777.

Parole Warwick. Countersigns Warren, Westfield.

The Court of which Col. Brodhead was president, appointed to inquire into the conduct of the artillery officers to wit: Capt. Eustis[89] and his officers and Capt. Archibald,[90] whose pieces were lost in the action of the 26th. of last month, Report, that having examined divers officers (whose names they mention) relative thereto, they are of opinion that Capt. Eustis and his officers behaved with becoming bravery and good conduct during the whole action, and that the loss of the field-pieces was inevitable, they being left in the rear, unsupported. Also that Capt. Gibbs Jones[91] and the officers under his command, behaved with becoming bravery, and good conduct, during the whole action; and that the loss of the piece commanded by Capt. Lieut. Archibald was inevitable, it being left in the rear, unsupported.

As the grounds on which some parts of the troops are encamped, may be less dry and healthy than others in the neighbourhood, and not so well watered, The Major Generals are desired in such cases to shift the encampments of their divisions, or such parts of them, as they shall judge necessary, the better to preserve the health of the troops.

As foggy and dewy mornings may be less

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89. Capt. Benjamin Eustis, of the Third Continental Artillery.

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90. Capt.-Lieut. Edward Archbald, of the Second Continental Artillery.

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91. Capt.-Lieut. Gibbs Jones, of Roman's independent Pennsylvania artillery.

favorable to the health of the soldiers, than other parts of the day; commanding officers of corps will, in such cases postpone turning out their men 'till the close, or other part of the day, as they and their Surgeons shall judge most expedient.

Canteens, Tomhawks and other camp-utensils must be very beneficial to the troops; but unless more care be taken to preserve, it will be impracticable to supply them. The Quarter Master General therefore, in issuing those articles, will charge them to the respective Quarter Masters of regiments and corps, these Quarter Masters to their Captains, or officers commanding companies; and they to their men, each to account with the other, in the order preceding; And the Captains and officers commanding companies are every Saturday to examine the cloaths, arms, accoutrements,

ammunition and camp-utensils of their men, that if any are missing, and a good account of them cannot be rendered, the person found deficient may be answerable for them.

In vain are orders given, and repeated, if after one cursory reading, they are thrown by and neglected. Many orders are intended for standing regulations, and of great importance to be known and remembered. The Commander in Chief therefore, in the strongest manner, enjoins upon all officers to examine the orderly book, and frequently review the standing orders, and as often cause to be read, to the men, such as immediately respect them.

A return of tents in each regiment to be made this day at four O'clock, in the afternoon, to the Quarter Master General. Such regiments as have not received a horseman's tent, are to apply to the Q M General, as soon as may be for a supply.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 9, 1777.

Parole Winchester. Countersigns York, Yarmouth.

In the General Orders of the 1st. Instant, Returns of the sick in Camp, to be signed by the Surgeons of each regiment, were directed to be made every Tuesday and Friday, at nine O'Clock in the morning, to the Surgeon General of the army, which has not been done; nor have returns of other kinds been regularly made when called for—Such neglects are greatly prejudicial to the service. All persons concerned are therefore enjoined to make due returns in future; and any who fail of doing it may depend on being arrested.

The guards which are relieved daily, are to send a serjeant, or corporal, to the grand parade, at eight o'Clock in the morning, to conduct the new the guards to their posts.

AFTER ORDERS

A General Court Martial to sit to morrow at the usual place, at nine O'Clock in the morning for the trial of such prisoners as shall be brought before them. Colonel Chambers is appointed president of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 10, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns Weymouth, Andover.

The tents of the whole army are to be struck to morrow morning at Gun-firing, and packed up, ready for marching, with the utmost speed; the line of march to begin afterwards as soon as possible.

All baggage Waggons (those with tents excepted) are to move this afternoon towards Boone-Town, to a place appointed by Gen. Mifflin. Guards for which are to be supplied in the following manner; viz —Each brigade furnishes a Captain, two Subalterns and thirty men, and each division a Field Officer, that from Gen. Greene's to be Colonel Commandant. Women are to march with the baggage. Two days provisions to be cooked and ready this afternoon. Canteens are to be filled with water before the march begins, as no soldier will be allowed to quit his rank on that account.

The three picquets, viz, On the *Pompton* , *Chatham* and *Middlebrook* roads, will quit their posts at gun-firing tomorrow morning and join their respective corps without delay. All other guards will attend their duty in the several departments where they are placed until relieved, moving with their charges respectively.

AFTER ORDERS

Each division (except Lord Stirling's) is to leave at Morristown a captain, two subalterns, three serjeants, three corporals and fifty privates. And Major General Lord Stirling's division one subaltern, two Serjeants, two corporals and twenty-five privates. Gen. Greene's division to furnish one Field Officer to command the whole; which field officer will call early to morrow morning upon the Adjutant General, for the orders of the Commander in Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Pompton Plains, July 11, 1777.

Parole Alexandria. Countersigns Arnold, Armstrong.

The army to pitch their tents to night and to morrow morning at gun-firing if the weather is good to strike them, and prepare every thing, with the greatest dispatch, for a march—In case of rain in the morning, the tents are to remain standing, unless particular orders are given to the contrary. No kind of baggage, besides the tents to be taken out of the waggons. Immediately after the morning gun,

the *General* to be beaten thro' the line instead of the *Revellie* . Two field pieces fired from the park of artillery to be the signal for marching. The same order of march to be in force to morrow. Each division will station the necessary guards about its own encampment.

The seperate Column of baggage to march under the direction, and agreeable to the orders, of the Quarter Master General.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Pompton Plains, July 12, 1777.

Parole Baskenridge. Countersigns Blandford, Burlington. As the foul weather prevents the marching of the troops to day, they are to draw two days provisions, and cook them immediately.

Complaint has been made to the Commander in Chief that some soldiers pull down the fences to burn, and lay open the fields of the Inhabitants. He enjoins it upon the officers to use the utmost watchfulness and care to prevent this practice; and whoever is found guilty of it shall be severely punished.

The same orders that were given last evening are to determine and regulate the march to morrow.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head–Quarters, Pompton Plains, July 13, 1777.

Parole Canterbury. Countersigns Chatham, Coventry.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial held the 7th, 8th and 9th instant, whereof Col. Walter Stewart was president, and orders, that they be put in execution forthwith—vizt:

Lieut. Cummings[30] of the 1st. Virginia regiment charged with “Messing with common soldiers, and speaking disrespectful words of the commanding officer of the regiment, and with carrying a soldier belonging to said regiment away.” The Court having no evidence to prove the charge of speaking disrespectful words of the commanding officer of the regiment, cannot determine whether he is guilty or not guilty of that charge. They are of opinion, considering the peculiar circumstances of the

matter (as to the charge of his messing with private soldiers) related by the prisoner, and having no evidence to prove the contrary, that he should be reprimanded by the commanding officer of the regiment he belongs to, at the head of the regiment. The Court do excuse the prisoner for taking a soldier away from the regiment, considering the bad state of health he was in.

John Walker, Serjeant in Capt. John Steel's Independent Company,[31] charged with "Absenting himself twelve days from his company without permission," pleaded guilty, but that he was returning to his company when taken up—Sentenced to be reprimanded at the head of the company, and one month's pay to be stopped from him.

Anthony Escott, Serjeant in Capt. Steel's Independent Company, charged with "Absenting himself from the said Company twelve

30. Lieut. Alexander Cummins (Cummings). He resigned June 13, 1778.

31. Steele's Independent Pennsylvania company was joined to the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment in December, 1778.

days without permission," pleaded guilty, sentenced to be reprimanded at the head of the company, and one month's pay to be stopped from him.

Serjeant Mottersboth of Col. Patten's Regiment, charged with "Desertion"—found guilty, and sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, and one month's pay to be stopped from him.

John Field and John Martin of Col. Angell's Regiment charged with "Desertion, and endeavouring to go to the enemy" —found guilty of desertion, and sentenced, each of them, to receive One hundred lashes on the bare back, and to be sent on board one of the Continental frigates, to serve during the times of their inlistments.

Lieut. Samuel Smith of the 8th. Pennsylvania Regiment charged with "Ungentlemanly behaviour in the regiment and disobedience of orders"—Acquitted of the charge of ungentlemanly behaviour; But found guilty of disobedience of orders, in not attending the parade as constantly at ordinary times, as he ought to have done; and sentenced to be severely reprimanded in General orders—The Commander in Chief is extremely sorry that an officer, of whom it is testified, that in a post of danger he behaved with "prudence and Spirit"—should be guilty of neglect of discipline, which is so essential to form the good soldier; a neglect contrary to orders—highly injurious to the service, and disgraceful to the subject of it—A neglect, for which neither prudence nor bravery can compensate, and which, if persisted in, must be an effectual bar to promotion.

John Dougharty of the Artillery charged with “stabbing Lieut. Carrington[32] of the 7th. Virginia Regt.”—The Court having considered the charge and evidence, are of opinion that the prisoner is

32. Lieut. Mayo Carrington. He was transferred to the Fifth Virginia Regiment in September, 1778; captain–lieutenant in October, 1778; captain in May, 1779; quartermaster of Woodford's brigade in 1779; deputy quartermaster of the Southern Army from December, 1779, to May, 1780; captured at Charleston, S.C.; remained a prisoner on parole to the end of the war.

guilty of stabbing Lieut. Carrington of the 7th. Virginia Regimt.: And they are likewise of opinion, that tho' the prisoner is guilty of the charge against him, he was justifiable in doing it, as he acted in the way of his duty.

John Briggs of the 4th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Desertion, and attempting to go to the enemy ”—acquitted, and ordered to be released from confinement.

Serjeant Alexander Shaw, and Serjt. Christian Closs, of the 4th. Pennsylv: Regiment—charged with “Deserting from the 1st. Maryland Regiment, inlisting into the 4th. Pennsylvania Regiment, and persuading others to desert ”—The witnesses, to prove the charge against the prisoners, being in the first Maryland Regiment, which is gone to Peek's–Kill, the Court released the prisoners from confinement for the present subject; to be tried when the witnesses can be procured.

Philip Rynbecker of Col. Patten's Regiment, charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back.

Hugh Cunningham of the 3rd New Jersey Regimt. charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Serjt. Silver of the Artillery charged with “Disobedience of orders”—found guilty, in the instance of refusing to confine John Dougherty of the Artillery, when order'd to do it by Lieut. Carrington of the 7th. Virginia Regt.—and sentenced to be reduced to the Ranks.

The Commander in Chief likewise approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 10th Inst.

whereof Col. Chambers was president, and orders that they be put in execution forthwith, vizt.

Capt. Connolly[33] of the 4th. Pennsylv: Regt., charged with “Inlisting Soldiers belonging to the 1st. Maryland Regiment contrary to the Articles of war”—The witnesses to prove the charge against the

prisoner being gone forward to Peek's Kill, the Court released Capt. Connolly from arrest, for the present; subject to be tried when the witnesses can be procured.

Michael Frits in Col. Chambers regiment, charged with “Desertion”—pleaded guilty—the Court on account of his youth sentenced him to receive fifteen lashes on his bare back.

Samuel Fisher of Col. Chambers regiment charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back.

John Grant of the 14th. Virginia Regiment, charged with “Sleeping on his post ”—pleaded guilty—sentenced to receive twenty–five lashes on his bare back—but it appearing in evidence that he was a good, orderly, well–behaved soldier, and was probably unwell when on sentry—The Commander in Chief remits his punishment.

Patrick Murphey, a soldier in Col. Hartley's Regiment, charged with “Sleeping on his post”—pleaded guilty—sentenced to have half a month's pay stopped from him.

James McMullen of Capt. O'Harra's Company, in Col Hazen's Regiment, charged with “Desertion, with a view of getting to Ireland ”—pleaded guilty—sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back, and to be sent on board one of the Continental Frigates to serve for the time he inlisted for.

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33. Capt. Robert Connolly (Connelly).

James Buckelau, Peter Schenck and Lewis Fenton of the 1st. New Jersey regiment, charged with “Desertion”—The Court having no evidence to prove the charge ordered the prisoners to be released from confinement, and to be sent to the regiment they belong to.

John Morgan of Col. Green's regiment, charged with “Desertion. inlisting twice, and receiving two bounties”—pleaded guilty. The Court sentenced him to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back, and the bounty he received from the officer in Col. Wyllys's regiment, to be stopped out of his pay, by the Captain to whose company he belongs, in Col. Greene's regiment, and paid to the officer in Col. Wyllys's battalion who inlisted him.

Joshua Morehouse of the 3rd. New-Jersey regiment charged with “Desertion”—pleaded guilty—from the prisoner's appearance and behaviour, the Court conceive he has never as yet been of any service to the Country, nor ever will be able to render it any; they therefore are of opinion he should, and do sentence him, to be drummed out of the service, and the wages he has due to him to be stopped.

The Commander in Chief confirms this sentence, and directs that the commanding officer of that regiment inquire why such a man was inlisted, and what officer inlisted him, and make report to him.

Abraham Hamiston of Capt: Durkee's Independent Company, from Wyoming, charged with “Desertion”—pleaded guilty—sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Matthew Myers of the 3rd. Pennsylvania Regt.—charged with “Desertion”—The Court postponed their determination concerning him.

As the weather is bad, and the ground wet, the General orders a gill of Rum to be served to each man immediately.

From intelligence lately received, the General informs the army, that it is possible the next move of the Army may be towards the Delaware: But desires no steps may be taken towards it 'till further orders.

Thomas Fosdick Esqr. was on the first instant appointed Brigade Major to Brigadier General Glover, to be respected and obeyed as such.

Roger Alden Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major to Brigadier General Huntington, and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Van Aulen's, July 14, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

Each Major General will order the guards necessary for the security of his own division.

The Quarter Master General with his deputies will mark out the ground for the encampment of each division to morrow— And a s the army will arrive on its ground early in the day; as soon as the Men are settled in their quarters, the Officers are critically to inspect their arms and accoutrements, and have them put in the best order possible—The Commander in Chief was surprised to day to see the bad condition of many arms they being not only unfit for fire, but very rusty, which latter defect it is certainly in the power of every man to prevent, and the neglect of it must arise from an inexcusable inattention of the officers.

The tents are to be struck at gun–firing to morrow morning (which will be at the usual time) and the whole army got ready to march. At five O'Clock one field piece is to be fired; and then the march is to begin; and as the baggage of each brigade will join its brigade to night, 'tis to follow close after it to morrow. The whole army to march of from the left, in half platoons, the brigades following each other in the order observed this day, saving that the baggage (as before directed) will immediately follow the brigade to which it belongs—As the distance is not great, no part of the army is to halt 'till it arrives at the ground for encamping.

If it should rain to morrow morning, the army is to remain in its present encampment.

On a *march* neither officer, nor soldier, is to pay a salute, or pull of the hart to the Commander in Chief, or other officer passing by.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Clove, July 15, 1777.

Parole Chichester. Countersigns Cumberland, Courland.

It was yesterday directed in General Orders, that neither officer nor soldier should pay a *salute* , or pull of the hat to the Commander in Chief, or other officer passing by; and the total disregard of the order, is a proof, how little pains officers take to acquaint either themselves, or their men, with the orders of the day; other orders issued the 4th. Instant, respecting the march of the army, are also neglected, in instances which come directly under the observation of the Commander in Chief, which cannot be presumed to arise from any other cause, than ignorance of

those orders; for future therefore all officers are each day to make themselves acquainted with the orders of it—And with respect to the orders referred to of the 4th Instant, The Commander in Chief directs, that the Brigadiers do, as soon as possible, call together the officers commanding Corps in their respective brigades, and read to them those orders; and the commanding officers of corps are in like manner required to assemble all the officers in their respective Corps, and read to them the same orders; and all who are not already provided are forthwith to furnish themselves with copies of them—And still more effectually to execute those orders, each Brigadier is to appoint a field officer to attend to the march of his brigade, and particularly of the waggons belonging to it, whose business it shall be, to ride backwards and forwards along the line, to see the march conducted with propriety and agreeably to orders.

Advantage is to be taken of the present halt to get the horses shod and waggons repaired—No delay is to be made in this matter, as it is very uncertain how soon the army may move again—And for the same reason, all officers and soldiers are to keep near their quarters, and on no pretence to ramble about the country, without leave first obtained by officers from their Brigadiers, and by soldiers from their Colonels, or officers commanding corps.

All waggons are to join their respective brigades, and get in their proper order for marching; and when the army moves again, the officers and waggon masters are to see that they are more equally loaded than they have been—And when any men fall sick on their march, they are not to be put into the heavy loaded baggage waggons, but left to be taken up by the empty waggons which follow in the rear for that end.

The commanding officers of corps are immediately to make returns to the Adjutant General of the cloathing most wanted in their respective corps: And as the quantity of cloathing to be distributed is not great, the Commander in Chief most earnestly desires that officers will make returns of no more than is indispensably necessary for their men.

The Commander in Chief expects that all officers will use their utmost exertions, to cause the orders heretofore given, to prevent the destruction of property; to be strictly observed, and consider them as binding at all times.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Clove, July 16, 1777.

Parole Effingham. Countersigns Danbury, Grafton.

The General Court Martial of which Col Chambers was President is dissolved.

A General Court martial is to sit at ten o'clock this forenoon, near Gen. Maxwell's quarters, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them; Col. Shreive[44] is appointed president of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Clove, July 17, 1777.

Parole Lee. Countersigns Prescot, Barton.

Some disputes having arisen between the Colonels Humpton[59] and Johnston[60] respecting seniority, the General Officers are to meet at some place to be appointed by Major Genl. Greene, at five o'clock this afternoon; and after hearing the pretensions of both those officers, and enquiring minutely into the matter, to report the

44. Col. Israel Shreve, of the Second New Jersey Regiment. He retired Jan. 1, 1781.

59. Col. Richard Humpton, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment. He was transferred to the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment July 1, 1778, to the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment in January, 1781, and to the Second Pennsylvania Regiment in January, 1783; brevet brigadier general in September, 1783; served to November of that year.

60. Col. Francis Johnston of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment. He retired in January, 1781.

case, with their opinion thereon to the Commander in Chief.

The frequent discharging of pieces, in order to clean and keep them in order, occasions so great a waste of ammunition, that the General orders, in very pointed and positive terms, that no musket shall be loaded with Cartridge[61] until we are close to the enemy, and there is a moral certainty of engaging them. The Quarter Mr. of each regiment is to draw a small quantity of powder, ball and wadding to furnish the guards from his regiment, who are to load with loose powder and running ball, when they mount guard: and this the officer commanding such guards are invariably to have drawn, and returned to their respective Regimental Quarter Masters, before their dismission from the parade, after being relieved. A practice of this kind strictly adhered to (and it is positively enjoined) will not only be a great saving of ammunition, but the means of preserving the arms, as nothing is more hurtful to the barrel, than to lay long loaded, especially with wet powder, or in damp weather.

One hundred and eighty tents are arrived in camp; such as are destitute may now be supplied therewith: But previous to the delivery of them, returns must be made to the Quarter Master General from each brigade of the number of men in each Corps belonging to the brigade, and of the tents now in their possession respectively.

The Adjutant General, in issuing orders for the delivery of cloaths, is to compare the returns made by the commanding officers of corps, of their wants, with the Cloathier's accounts; so far as he can come at them, at this time and place; and see, that to the utmost of his power, equal justice be done in the distribution of them.

AFTER ORDERS

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61. The cartridges used in the Continental muskets were made of paper. They were manufactured by private soldiers or at the laboratory at Springfield, Mass., and magazines elsewhere. They were prepared for loading by biting through the powder end before being rammed down the barrel. The exposed powder was fired by the spark from the flintlock acting on the priming in the pan.

The Quarter Master General is to have the road thro' the Clove, to New-Windsor, well reconnoitred, and all proper places for halting and encamping at, with the distances from hence, noted; and to make report thereof, as soon as possible, to the Commander in Chief. He is to do the like on the road to King's-ferry.

Doctor Cochran is to inspect into the state and condition of the sick; and will give such orders respecting them, as shall appear proper.

Each brigade is to furnish a good blacksmith, to parade to morrow at twelve o'clock, at noon, before Lord Stiflings quarters, at Suffern's tavern.

The Quarter Masters of those regiments for which cloathing Returns have been made, are to apply to the Deputy Cloathier General to morrow, at Baldwin's mills, about a mile from Head Quarters, on the way to Pompton.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Clove, July 18, 1777.

Parole Germany. Countersigns France, Spain.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 16th Instant, whereof Col. Shreve was president, and orders that there be no delay in putting them in execution.

John Van Dyck of the 2nd. New Jersey Regt. charged with “desertion, and stealing three hundred dollars”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

James McCollah in Capt. Lane's[62] Company in the 2nd. New Jersey Regt. charged with “desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes

62. This Captain Lane is not easily identified. The two Lanes that appear in the rolls of the Second New Jersey Regiment were both lieutenants at this date and for many months afterwards. There was at this date a Capt. Henry Luce, of the Second New Jersey Regiment, who may possibly be the man.

on his bare back.

Joshua Hunter of the 1st. Virginia Regt. charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Michael Flemming, John Davidson and John Borgenhoff, all of the 9th. Pennsylvania Regt. charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced each of them to receive fifty lashes on their bare backs.

Levi Springer of the 4th. North Carolina Regiment in Captain Neilson's Company, charged with “Desertion from the 4th. North Carolina Regiment, and inlisting with Capt. Symes of the 10th. Virginia Regiment,” found guilty; and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back; to serve out his time with Capt. Neilson, and the bounty he received from Capt. Symes to be stopped out of his pay by Capt. Neilson, and paid to Capt. Symes.

Robert Story of the 11th. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with “Desertion from Capt. Dean's Company in the 11th. Penn: Regt., and inlisting into Capt. McKinley's Company of the 12th. Pennsylv: Regiment.” The Court are of opinion he is intitled to the benefit of the Commander in Chief's pardon (proclaimed at Middlebrook, June 10th) They are also of opinion the prisoner belongs to the 11th. Pennsylvania regiment, that the bounty he received from Capt McKinley of the 12th. Pennsylv. Regt. shall be stopped out of his pay, and paid to Capt. McKinley.

Daniel Ma'Curdy of the 3rd. New Jersey Regt. charged with “Desertion”—found guilty and sentenced to receive thirty lashes on his bare back.

John McVay of the 1st. Virginia Regiment charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Clove, July 19, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

A Board of General Officers, consisting of all the General Officers not on duty, to sit to morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at General Greene's quarters, for the purpose of settling the rank of all the Pennsylvania Field Officers.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve the following sentences of a general Court Martial, held the 17th. instant, whereof Col. Shreve was president; and orders their immediate execution—vizt.

John Jay of Col Hazen's Regt. charged with “Desertion”—The Court having no evidence against him, ordered him to be released from confinement.

Christian Gasnet of Col. Armand's regiment charged with “Desertion”—The Court having no evidence against him, ordered him to be released from confinement.

Matthew Myers of the 3rd. Pennsylvania Regt. charged with “Desertion”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Adam Haskey and Frederick Leonard, both of Col Stewart's regiment from Pennsylvania, charged with “Desertion” found guilty, and sentenced each to receive fifty lashes.

Frederick Miller of Col. Stewarts regiment from Pennsylvania, charged with “Desertion”; found guilty and sentenced to receive fifteen lashes on his bare back: But the Commander in Chief, on account of the prisoner's extreme youth, and at the Courts' request, is pleased to remit his punishment.

Robert Fassett of the 4th. Pennsylvania Regiment charged with “Desertion”—The Court having no evidence against the prisoner, ordered him to be released from confinement.

Robert Burns of the 3rd. Virginia Regiment, charged with “Desertion from the 3rd. Virg. Regt. and inlisting into the 2nd. Pennsylvania Regt.”—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes.

Corporal Miller, Serjt. McClure, Serjt. Johnson and John Donnegan a private, all the 4th. New-Jersey regiment, charged with “Mutiny, endeavouring to excite Sedition, and disobedience of orders

respecting the marching of the army"—The three former found guilty of Mutiny, in joining with a body of men, and going to Head-Quarters to make complaint, and not guilty of endeavouring to excite Sedition and disobedience of orders, respecting the marching of the army; and sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, and reprimanded at the head of the regiment, by the commanding officer; And John Donnegan found guilty of the charges against him, and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back.

James Divinney of the 5th. Pennsylv: Regiment, charged with "Desertion from the 5th. Pennsylvania regiment, and inlisting into the 3rd. Pennsylv: regiment"—found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back, and to be sent to the 5th. Pennsylvania regiment, and the bounty he received from Capt. Reese[76] (of the 3rd. Penn: regt.) to be stopped out of the prisoners wages, and paid Capt. Reese.

It seems that vacancies of officers have happened in regiments and corps; the commanding officers have in several instances undertaken to fill them up, and draw pay for the persons by them appointed—A practice altogether unjustifiable; and the continuance of it is absolutely forbidden: And henceforward no person so appointed shall be considered as having any authority, or intitled to a commission, or pay, by virtue thereof.

Such regiments as lately made returns for cloathing, and have not received their quotas, are to apply to the Deputy Cloathier General therefor.

AFTER ORDERS

The whole army is to be ready to march tomorrow morning at five o'clock, when the march is to begin—Each brigade is to march off by files from the left; followed by its baggage —General

76. Capt. John Reese, of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment. He resigned at the end of the year 1777.

Maxwell's leading, and forming the van-guard, and General Muhlenberg's bringing up the rear, and forming the rear guard; in the same manner as when the army marched to this place; The tents are to be struck at Gun firing, and everything packed up with the greatest dispatch. Genl. Greene will call in the guards mounted from his division.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Galloways, Smith's Clove, July 21, 1777.[85]

Parole —. Countersigns —.

The waggon Masters are to see that the horses under their direction feed as much as possible on grass this day, and save what grain and dry forage they have.—The Waggoners are to stay by their horses, to prevent their doing damage to *corn* , *flax* &c for if such things are damaged thro' their negligence, they will be severely punished.

The Q. M. Genl. is immediately to inspect the boats, observe what injuries they have sustained in the carriage, and take the most effectual measures to prevent their receiving any further damage.

Everything is to be in readiness to move to morrow morning.

The General is informed, that some of the troops are without provisions; They are immediately to supply themselves with provisions for this day and to morrow.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Galloways, Smith's Clove, July 22, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

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85. No orders were issued on July 20.

AFTER ORDERS

The army is to march early to morrow morning, if it should not rain; and at five o'clock the march is to begin. General Lincoln's and General Stephen's divisions to proceed up the Clove, and march to Chester, and there wait for further orders. General Greene's division, and the park of artillery to march back to Suffern's, whither also the baggage of Lord Stirling's division is to return.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Ramapough, July 23, 1777.

Parole Chester. Countersigns Morris, Pompton.

The march of the army, whenever it begins, will be made with the utmost dispatch: This renders it indispensibly necessary to divest it of as much baggage as possible.—Each Brigadier is therefore immediately to cause certain waggons to be prepared for the tents of his brigade; And when orders are given to march, they are to suffer nothing to be put into those waggons but the tents; and see that they are not heavy loaded even with *them* . And the more to facilitate the march of the army, the Commissaries are to leave no means untried to procure a supply of hard bread, to be reserved for the march; and when the army moves, they are to go forward before it and get the provisions ready to be delivered the moment the army halts. The Quarter Master General will have ready, a proper number of empty waggons to follow each brigade, to take up the sick and lame; the rest of the baggage is to be left under the care of small guards, to follow on after the army, accompanied by the women, none of whom are to be suffered to go with the troops. The army is to be put and kept in readiness to march on the shortest notice.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Ramapough, July 24, 1777.

Parole Harmony. Countersigns Concord, Union.

Hezekiah Turner Esqr. was on the 18th instant appointed Pay Master to Col. Marshall's regiment; and he is to be regarded as such.

AFTER ORDERS

The army is to march to morrow morning early; every thing is to be prepared accordingly, agreeably to the orders of yesterday, and nothing left to be done but striking the tents and putting them into the waggons. At five o'clock, or sooner, the march is to begin—Genl. Muhlenberg's brigade will lead, and the whole march off by the right in platoons. General Muhlenberg will detach an advanced guard, and General Weedon a rear guard. There are to be no flanking parties. The waggons, with the tents of both brigades will follow the division. The rear guard is to march in the rear of the Artillery and ammunition Waggons; the other baggage Waggons of the brigade will precede the park of artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Pompton, July 25, 1777.

Parole Eugene. Countersigns Marlborough, Montgomery.

The troops having arrived at the place of encamping so early, they can with the greatest ease provide themselves with wood; and each Brigadier General will see that it be done accordingly—That fences are ever burnt must be imputed to inattention, and want of care in officers; but at this time will be deemed to arise from the most inexcusable negligence—How disgraceful to the army is it, that the peaceable inhabitants, our countrymen and fellow citizens, dread our halting among them, even for a night and

are happy when they get rid of us? This can proceed only from their distress at the plundering and wanton destruction of their property. To prevent these evils is the manifest duty of the officers; and were they closely attentive to that discipline and order, which should ever be established in a camp; they, for the most part, certainly might prevent them. The Commander in Chief therefore expects, that officers of every rank, will exert themselves, and put a stop to such practices in future. And if no other means are sufficient, that they post Sentries round their encampments, who shall take prisoners, every man who is guilty of them: And the guilty will most assuredly meet the punishment due to their crimes. Two soldiers in General Sullivan's division found guilty of plundering the inhabitants, have lately been condemned to die, and one of them executed—At all events such practices must be prevented—for 'tis our duty to protect the property of our fellow citizens.

The officers and men are to remain at their encampments, and not stroll from house to house all around—The officers doubtless ought to set the example in this matter; and if this caution were always attended to, and the men made to observe it, one of the evils before complained of would be almost totally prevented.

If it should not rain to morrow morning, nor the tents be too wet with dew, the army is to get ready to march at four o'clock.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Morristown, July 26, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The tents are to be struck to morrow morning as soon as they are sufficiently dry; and the army is to march immediately afterwards.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, July 27, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The army is to proceed on its march to morrow morning as early as possible.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Coryell's ferry, July 29, 1777.

Parole Delaware. Countersigns Derby, Dunstable.

The Commander in Chief has reason to believe, that it has been owing to the carelessness and inattention of the waggonmasters, in not seeing the horses properly fed and managed, that such great numbers of them have foundered and died. They may be dismissed from the service if they neglect so capital a part of their duty, and content themselves with merely directing the waggoners to do it. It is expected therefore, that henceforward the Waggon Master General, and his deputies themselves, attend to this business, and at all times see that there is a suitable distribution of forage, that it be duly prepared, and the horses properly fed and managed: Any future negligence in this matter, will most assuredly produce examples of severity, which the Commander in Chief at all times earnestly wishes to avoid, but which must be the inevitable consequences of inattention to duty. The General has also observed, that on a march the Waggon Masters have often been out of the way, and the waggons committed to their charge, in a straggling, disorderly state. They will remember, that it is their duty to be constantly with their waggons, and to ride backwards and forwards frequently, to see that they move in good order: And the General expects an exact attention to this point.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Coryell's-ferry, July 30, 1777.

Parole Philadelphia. Countersigns Boston, Providence.

The paymasters of those regiments, from which detachments have been made, to form the Corps of Riflemen under Col Morgan, are without delay to pay off their respective detachments up to the last of May. Col. Morgan's corps now lays at Trenton.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Coryell's ferry, July 31, 1777.

Parole Fortitude. Countersigns Success, Victory.

The army is to cross the Delaware with all possible dispatch, and proceed for Philadelphia.

Col. Humpton will take the command of the division commanded by General Lincoln.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Col. Hills, Roxboro,[24] August 4, 1777.

Parole Cambridge. Countersigns Charlestown, Concord.

In the present marching state of the army, every incumbrance proves greatly prejudicial to the service; the multitude of women in particular, especially those who are pregnant, or have children, are a clog upon every movement. The Commander in Chief therefore earnestly recommends it to the officers commanding brigades and corps, to use every reasonable method in their power to get rid of all such as are not absolutely necessary; and the admission or continuance of any, who shall, or may have come to the army

24. Col. Henry Hill's house was in Indian Queen Lane, about 1 mile east of Schuylkill Falls and a mile from Germantown, Pa. His farm was known as Roxborough.

since its arrival in Pennsylvania, is positively forbidden, to which point the officers will give particular attention.

A General Court Martial is to sit to morrow, at nine oclock in the morning, at or near Judge Laurence's[25] quarters by Schuylkill falls, for the trial of all such prisoners as shall be brought before them. Col James Wood is appointed president of this court.

The regimental Surgeons are to send all their sick to the general Hospital in Philadelphia.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Col. Hill's, Roxboro, August 5, 1777.

Parole Alexandria. Countersigns Virginia, Carolina.

The General Court Martial ordered yesterday, is to sit to morrow morning, at nine o'clock, at Palmer's tavern, at Schuylkill falls; and all members must attend without fail. A Serjeant from brigade to attend the court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Roxboro, August 6, 1777.

Parole Congress. Countersigns Franklin, Deane.

A board of General Officers, consisting of all the Major and Brigadier Generals in camp, is to sit to morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at General Stephens's quarters, at Dr. Smith's house[45] near Schuylkill falls—to make enquiry why the pay abstracts are not regularly made out, and lodged with the Pay Master General, according to orders—The pay Abstracts of every regiment and corps in the army, for the month of July, and any time preceding that month, for which they have not

25. John Lawrence, Judge Advocate General of the Continental Army.

45. Rev. William Smith, the first provost of the College of Pennsylvania. His house was between Indian Lane and the Ridge Road.

been made out, are to be completed and delivered to the Pay Master General by Monday next. The officers commanding regiments and corps will be answerable for the execution of this order: And every officer, who does not deliver in his abstracts, punctually by the time above assigned, may depend on being arrested, and tried for disobedience of orders; unless there are reasons, which may render it impracticable, to any to make out and deliver their abstracts by that time, and in that case, they are to appear to morrow, and lay those reasons before the above mentioned board of General Officers; if they do not, it will be taken for granted that no such reasons exist.

Joseph Ward Esqr., Commissary General of Musters, will attend the same board, to assign the reasons, why the regiments and corps of the army, have not been more generally mustered.

As the time is uncertain, when the army may march but may be very soon and sudden; all officers, and soldiers, are to keep near their quarters; and such officers as have had leave to go to Philadelphia, are to return, and none be permitted to go thither, but upon really necessary business, which being finished, they are immediately to join their respective corps.

Whenever the army moves, it will probably be necessary, that it march with the utmost celerity— the tents therefore, agreeably to former orders, are to be loaded in waggons by themselves, and in such manner, that they may, without difficulty, keep up with the troops: For the same reason, the officers will take with them, only a few articles of cloathing, such as shall be indispensibly necessary, leaving the bulk of their baggage to be brought on after them, and in order to facilitate the march, the Quarter Master General is to provide so many waggons as shall be necessary to carry the men's packs: But these packs are not

to be stuffed with loads of useless trumpery, as from the sizes of many, there is great reason to suppose is now the case, and the officers are to see that they are not; for which purpose, the Commander in Chief most earnestly desires and expects, that the officers particularly inspect the packs of their men, and select only such articles as are necessary and useful: All the rest (each roans being rolled up by itself) is to be collected by the Quarter Masters of the regiments, and by them deposited in proper places, to be provided by the Quarter Master General.

Pursuant to a resolve of Congress of the 16th. of July last, the officers commanding regiments and corps are directed, that in case they have any Serjeants, Corporals, Drummers or Private men, deemed incapable of doing field duty, such men should be examined by the Director General of the hospital, or some other Physician or Surgeon; and if judged fit for garrison duty, they are not to be discharged, but transferred to the Invalid Corps, and sent to Philadelphia as soon as possible. Men

having only one leg, or one arm each, if otherwise capable of doing garrison duty, are to be deemed proper recruits for this corps.

A General Court Martial of the light dragoons is to sit to morrow morning at nine o'clock, at Lush's tavern, in German town, for the trial of all prisoners belonging to any of the corps of light dragoons, which shall be brought before them. Col. Sheldon is appointed president of this court—Col. Moylan will direct the several quotas of officers for members which the different corps of horse are to furnish; And the Judge Advocate General will appoint a deputy to attend the court. The appointment of Col Sheldon, to be president of this court, is to have no

influence, in determining the question of rank between him and Col. Bland.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Roxboro, August 7, 1777.

Parole —. Countersign —.

At a General Court Martial held the 18th and 19th days of July last, the following soldiers were tried for various crimes, and acquitted—viz.

Timothy Brannon and William Smith of the 6th. Maryland regiment; William Foster and Adam Brooks of the 10th Virginia; Isaac Proctor of the 15th. Virginia; Richard Roach of the 4th. Pennsylvania and William Montgomery of Col. Spencer's Regiment.

Joseph Halbert, Serjeant in the 5th. Pennsylvania regiment was tried for “Desertion”; but it appeared to the Court, that he was intitled to the benefit of the pardon granted by the Commander in Chief previous to the execution of Thomas Smith, who was shot at Middlebrook.

At the same court the following Soldiers were tried for various crimes and found guilty—Vizt.—James McClaster, James Scott, Daniel McKay, James Montgomery, John Montgomery of Col Stewart's regiment; Alexander McKinley of the 9th. Pennsylv: regiment; John Morgan, Morris McKinsey, Daniel Smith and William Gammon, of Col. Spencer's regiment; David Potts of the 11th. Pennsylvania regt.; John Potts and Jeremiah Goldsberry of the 11th. Virginia; John Striser of Capt. Bayles[46] company in one of the Maryland Regiments; George Fant of the 8th. Virginia and John Annes of the 2nd. New Jersey Regiment. But The Commander in Chief grieved at the number of offenders; ever desireous of

shewing mercy, where it is not incompatable with the public good and hoping that his clemency may hereafter have a happy tendency to reclaim the guilty; was pleased

46. Capt. Montjoy Bailey, of the Seventh Maryland Regiment. He resigned in September, 1778.

to grant a general pardon, and the offenders convicted as aforesaid, are hereby declared to be pardoned.

The following sentences of the same court martial are approved by the Commander in Chief, viz.

Capt. Friesback of Col. Armand's corps, charged 1st. with "Absenting himself without leave; 2nd. When being ordered to join his company when under arms, answer'd, he had time enough, and declined doing it; 3rd. When being put under arrest, made use of bad language, and treated his Colonel in a manner unbecoming an officer; 4th. When the corps was ordered to march into Amboy, he uttered discontent loudly before the soldiers, and wanted to know why they were returning to Amboy." Acquitted of the first, and found guilty of the second, third and fourth charges, and sentenced to be reprimanded in General orders, and to ask pardon of Col Armand in the presence of the officers of his corps.

The Commander in Chief wishes all officers to be impressed with this truth, that nothing is more essential in military service than an exact subordination, and ready obedience to the commands of superior officers; that it is this which gives life and vigour to an army: that a contrary conduct must clog and impede every movement, and excite a spirit of discontent, disobedience and licentiousness among the troops; that in this view, the conduct of Capt. Friesback must be deemed highly criminal, and of a very dangerous tendency.

Capt. Clark,[47] Lieut. Higgins[48] and Lieut. Kinley[49] of the 8th. Virginia regiment and Capt. Langdon[50] of the 12th Virginia regt. charged severally with "Neglect of duty, in not having their men's arms in good order, and with disobedience of the General orders, relating thereto." Acquitted.

Capt. Berry,[51] Lieut. Myers[52] and Ensign Westfall,[53]

47. Capt. Jonathan Clark. He was promoted to major of the Twelfth Virginia Regiment in January, 1778; lieutenant colonel in May, 1779; taken prisoner at Charleston, S.C., in May, 1780; prisoner on parole to end of the war.

48. Lieut. Robert Higgins. He was taken prisoner at Germantown in October, 1777; was captain of the Eighth Virginia Regiment and transferred to the Second Virginia Regiment in February, 1781; brevet major in September, 1783.

49. Lieut. Benjamin Kinley. He was wounded at Germantown in October, 1777; retired in September, 1778; was captain of a Virginia State regiment from 1778 to 1781.

50. Capt. Jonathan Langdon. He resigned in September, 1778.

51. Capt. Thomas Berry. He retired in September, 1778.

52. Lieut. Christopher Myer. He was transferred to the Fourth Virginia Regiment in September, 1778; resigned in March, 1779.

53. Ensign Cornelius Westfall. He resigned in April, 1778.

of the 8th. Virginia regiment; Capt. Brent[54] and Lieut. Smith[55] of the 4th. Virginia regt. charged severally with “Neglect of duty, in not having their men's arms in good order, and with disobedience of the General orders relating thereto, found guilty and sentenced to be (Lieuts. Myers and Smith severely) reprimanded in general orders.

The Commander in Chief cannot forbear to express his astonishment, at the carelessness of officers, in a point of such capital importance, as this now mentioned; and that this carelessness too should take place, after repeated and most particular orders, recently given, to have the arms thoroughly cleaned and put in the best order; seeing their own personal safety; that of the army and of the country, depends on the efficacy of the men's arms; 'tis truely surprising, that officers can rest easy for one hour, when there is the smallest probability that they are unfit for immediate action, whether orders for examining and cleaning them be given or not; For 'tis a duty so obvious, that the officers of regiments and companies should see to it themselves, at all times, and not oblige the Commander in Chief to attend to every circumstance that regards each particular corps.

The Brigade Commissaries are to attend this afternoon, at five o'clock, at the market house in Germantown, to draw a gill of Vinegar a man for their respective brigades.

The commanding officers of regiments are to consult with the other field officers, and captains of companies belonging to their regiments, on what allowance of soap is absolutely necessary, with proper œconomy, to keep the soldiery clean; a report of their opinion, to be made immediately,

to the board of General Officers, to sit to day agreeable to yesterday's orders; who are to take the matter into consideration, and report their opinion of the same.

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54. Capt. John Brent. He was promoted to major in October, 1777; resigned in May, 1778.

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55. Lieut. John Smith. He resigned in May, 1778.

The waggons, with the heavy baggage of all the brigades, are immediately to proceed to Coryell's-ferry, and cross, and wait on the other side for further orders.

Each brigade is to send a small guard, with their own waggons, under proper officers; the whole to be under the command of a field officer.

The waggons are to move in the following order. Those of Lord Stirling's division first; General Lincoln's next; Genl. Stephens' next and Genl. Greene's last.

The boats are also to move on at the same time. The Forage Master General will take care that forage is provided for the teams, upon the march, and at the ferry.

The troops of the whole line are to be in readiness to be reviewed to morrow morning at five o'clock; when it is expected every officer and soldier not on other duty, and able, will attend. The troops are to be drawn up on the respective brigade parades. It is expected that all the waggoners, waggons and teams, which will remain in camp, will all be in their proper places; that an inspection may be had into the condition thereof. This the waggon master General will take care to see complied with.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Roxboro, August 8, 1777.

Parole Germantown. Countersigns Roxboro, Hill.

The morning being foggy and dewy, the Brigadiers will postpone parading their brigades 'till six o'clock and longer if necessary, 'till the fog and dew are chiefly dissipated.

At two o'clock P.M. the army is to march to a new encampment, about miles from hence, on the way to Coryell's ferry, at the ground appointed by the Quarter Master General.

Col. Moylan will leave proper detachments of horse,

as has already been proposed to him, to search all houses in the neighbourhood of the late encampment, and on the roads towards Philadelphia, for all straggling soldiers, whom they will secure. And to morrow morning he will move forward, to join the main army, previously making application to the Quarter Master General and Commissary General of forage, for direction as to the ground, that such a post may be taken, as shall be most convenient for the army, and getting a supply of forage.[62]

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62. At this point in the Varick Transcripts in the Library of Congress is the note: "Original Orders lost up to the 13th instant."

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Cross Roads, August 13, 1777.

Parole Berlin. Countersigns Hungary, Hanover.

The officers of the day will consider of the necessary guards to be posted in this place, and attend to the order and discipline of the camp, agreeably to the general orders of the 5th. of June. The General requests the officers of the day to dine at Head Quarters as usual.

The Brigadiers, or Officers commanding brigades, are at orderly time to morrow, to return a list of all the absent officers in their respective corps, to the Adjutant General. In doing this, the name and rank of the officers are to be set forth; how long they have been absent; whether they are upon duty, and what duty, or upon furlough, and the length of time for which the furloughs were given. A strict compliance with this order is expected.

The Quarter Master and Waggon Master General are now to arrange all matters in their respective departments in the best manner possible; and be ready to move on the shortest notice, in whatever route the army shall be called to march.

The board of General officers held the 12th. instant to examine the complaints made against Col. John White[95] and other officers of the Georgia Battalion, for inlisting some men out of the Continental army who were already inlisted in other regiments report "That upon the fullest enquiry, there dont appear the least imputation against any of his officers, except in the instance of Capt.

Lucas,[96] who supposed himself authorised in the matter complained of by a general order from Major General Gates, issued by the Town Major."

All officers from whose corps it is suspected any men have deserted and inlisted into Col. White's battalion, are instantly to make out lists of their names, with proper descriptions of their persons and dress, and deliver them to their brigadier, or officer commanding their

95. Of the Fourth Georgia Regiment.

96. Capt. John Lucas, of the Third Georgia Regiment.

brigade, who will immediately send a suitable officer of the brigade to Philadelphia; to examine Col. White's battalion, agreeable to his request; who will deliver up their deserters, if any shall be found in his corps; these officers will at the same time apply to the officers commanding the gallies, and other vessels of war, at Philadelphia, and below the city, for leave to search their vessels, for deserters; and they are desired to permit such searches accordingly.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Cross Roads, August 14, 1777.

Parole Holland. Countersigns Sweden, Denmark.

A board of general officers, consisting of all the General officers not on duty, to sit tomorrow, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at General Greene's quarters, for the purpose of settling the rank of all the Pennsylvania field officers.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Cross Roads, August 16, 1777.

Parole Bristol. Countersigns Coventry, Darby.

STANDING REGULATIONS

1st. When the army is to march, the General (and not the Revellie) is to beat in the morning.

2nd. At the beating of the General, the officers and soldiers are to dress and prepare themselves for the march, packing up and loading their baggage.

3rd. At the beating of the troop, they are to strike all their tents and put them in the waggons; all the waggons to be sent (with the guard directed in the after orders of July 4th) to the place where the whole is appointed to assemble.

4th. In due time, at least a quarter of an hour before the time appointed for marching, the drummers are to beat a march, upon which the troops are to march out and form at the head of their encampment; the files to be completed, and the battalions properly told off. Precisely at the hour appointed for marching, the drummers beat the march a second time, at that part of the line from which the march is to be made (whether the right, left or center) upon which the troops face or wheel, (according to the order of march which shall be prescribed,) towards that place where the march was beat, and instantly begin the march.

5th. At the beating of the *General* , the regimental Quarter Masters, and Camp-colourmen, are to assemble, and forthwith parade on the *right* , *left* or *center* of the line, according as the army shall march, from one or the other. The Brigade and Division Quarter Masters, so many of the artificers as the Qr Mr General, or his Deputy shall direct, and all the pioneers, are to assemble at the same time and place. The Quarter Master General, or one of his deputies, will then march them to the place where the army is to encamp. The Pioneers and Artificers are to go in the front to repair the roads, and remove any obstructions that may incommode the line of march. The Quarter Masters and Camp colourmen follow, in the order the corps, to which they belong, stand in the line.[16]

16. The Varick Transcript in the Library of Congress notes that the remainder of the orders for this day is lost.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Cross Roads, August 17, 1777.

Parole Providence. Countersigns Newport, Kingston.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve of the following sentences of a General Court Martial held the 14th. instant, whereof Col. Spencer was president, and orders them to be put in execution forthwith—viz—

William Jackson, charged with "Desertion from the 2nd. New Jersey regt., and inlisting into a company of artificers." The Court are of opinion the prisoner is guilty of the charges exhibited against him; But as the prisoner was confined in the main guard-house, at Middlebrook, at the time Thomas Smith was shot, for the offences he is now found guilty of, and was released from confinement in consequence of His Excellency the Commander in Chief's pardon; they are of opinion he should receive no punishment. They are likewise of opinion he should be sent to the 2nd New-Jersey regiment, to serve the time he inlisted for; and the officer of the company he belongs to, in that regiment, shall settle with Capt. Roe[27] for the bounty the prisoner received from him, and other charges he has against him (if the pay due the prisoner during the time he served in the company of artificers is not sufficient for that purpose) And the money paid by the prisoner's officer to Capt. Roe shall be stopped out of the prisoner's wages.

Capt. Holmes,[28] of the 4th. New Jersey regt. charged with "Going into one Palmer's garden, and tearing cucumbers from the vines, and abusing and striking Doctor Smith."[29] The court having considered the charge and evidence produced to them, are of opinion, that the prisoner took cucumbers from the vines, in Palmer's garden, and he was justifiable in doing it, as he had leave. They are of

27. Capt. Jesse Roe, of Flower's artillery artificers regiment.

28. Capt. James Holmes, of the Fourth New Jersey Regiment. He resigned in March, 1778.

29. Rev. William Smith.

opinion the prisoner did strike Doctor Smith: But as he gave the first offence, the Court are of opinion, he deserved the treatment he received.

The Court took into consideration, to what regiment Nathaniel Anster, tried as a soldier of the 5th. Pennsylv. regiment, and punished for *Desertion* from that regt. properly belongs, at the request of Capt. Bartholomew[30] of the 5th. Pennsylvania regiment and Lieut. Hammitt[31] of Col. Spencer's regt. The court having considered the several papers produced to them by each of the claimants, are of opinion, that Nathaniel Anster properly belongs to the 5th. Pennsyl. regiment, and that Capt. Bartholomew shall stop out of Ansters wages four dollars per month, until Lieut. Hammitt is fully paid his account against Anster, and pay them to Lieut. Hammitt.

William Rickett of the 12th. Pennsylv. Battalion, charged with “being a sleep on his post when over prisoners,” pleaded guilty, and begged for mercy; sentenced to receive thirty nine lashes on his bare back.

Moses Farrell, of the 5th. Pennsylv. regt. charged with “deserting from the said regiment, inlisting into another corps; after which being taken, deserting again, and persuading an exceeding good soldier to desert with him.” Acquitted of the charges exhibited against him.

Ensign McMichael[32] of Col. Stewart's regiment charged with “assaulting and striking with his sword, William Wright, a centinel in the execution of his duty.” The court, having considered the charge and evidence, are of opinion the prisoner struck William Wright, a Centinel, with his fist, while on his post; but on account of his insolence, and charging the bayonet on the prisoner, they sentence the prisoner to receive a private reprimand from the Colonel of the regiment he belongs to.

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30. Capt. Benjamin Bartholomew, of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment. He was wounded at the Battle of Brandy wine in September, 1777; retired in January, 1783.

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31. Lieut. John Hammit, of Spencer's Additional Continental regiment.

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32. Ensign William McMichael, of Stewart's Pennsylvania State regiment. He was dismissed in March, 1778.

The Commander in Chief is anxious to have the ranks of the Pennsylvania field officers adjusted. The board of General officers which was appointed to sit for that purpose the 15th. instant, will sit to morrow at Genl. Greene's quarters, at the hour to which they adjourned. The Commander in Chief wishes the board to be as full as possible; and desires the General Officers of the day to attend the board in preference to any other duty.

General Court–Martials are frequently prevented doing business, by means of the non–attendance of some of the members; which occasions such delays as are greatly injurious to the service. In time to come, if any officer is appointed president of a General Court Martial, and thro' sickness, or other unavoidable accident, cannot attend, the Brigade Major of the brigade to which he belongs, is to give notice thereof, immediately to the Adjutant General. And if any member is, by the like means, rendered unable to attend, such member is to give immediate notice thereof to the Adjutant of the regiment he belongs to, that another may be returned in his stead: And upon the first appointment of a General Court Martial, each Brigade Major is to return the names of the members, furnished

from his brigade, to the Adjutant General, at or before the hour appointed for the sitting of the court.

By the returns given in by the Brigadiers, pursuant to the orders of the 13th. instant, it appears that many officers are absent without leave; that some have furloughs for sixty days, and others without limitation at all. With respect to those who are absent without leave, the General desires, that the Brigadiers, to whose brigade they belong, will order them to join it immediately, and have a strict enquiry (which is to be reported) into their conduct for so doing: and with respect to unlimited furloughs, or furloughs for sixty days, he desires that no more such be given, without the consent of the Commander in Chief; as there are very few cases that

can justify such indulgences in the active part of a campaign. Those who have exceeded the time limited in their furloughs, are also to be ordered to join, and to account satisfactorily for their conduct.

The ground being very wet, the Quarter Master General is to procure as much straw (from which the grain has been threshed) as possible, and distribute the same in the most equal manner among the troops.

A gill of *rum* , or other *spirit* is to be issued to day, to each non–commissioned officer, soldier and waggoner.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Cross Roads, August 19, 1777.

Parole Plymouth. Countersigns Princeton, Pluckimin.

The following are the sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 7th, 12th and 16th inst: of which Col Sheldon was president.

Edward Willcox, Quarter Master to Capt. Dorse's[44] troop charged with “Desertion, taking a horse belonging to Col. Moylan's regiment, and a trooper with his accoutrements,” found guilty and sentenced to be led round the regiment he belongs to, on horseback, with his face towards the horses tail, and his coat turned wrong side outwards, and that he be then discharged from the army. The Commander in Chief approves the sentence and orders it be put in execution immediately.

George Kilpatrick, and Charles Martin, Serjeants, Lawrence Brown, and Enoch Wells Corporals, Daniel McCarty,

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44. Capt. Thomas Dorsey, of the Fourth Continental Dragoons.

Patrick Leland, Philip Franklin, Jacob Baker, Thomas Orbs, Adam Rex, Frederick Grimer, Daniel Cainking, Christian Longspit, Henry Whiner and Nicholas Walma, privates, in Col. Moylan's regiment of light dragoons, severally charged with “mutiny and desertion,” found guilty of desertion and adjudged worthy of death. The Court esteemed the prisoners (excepting Serjeant Kilpatrick) objects of compassion, and as such recommended them to the Commander in Chief. The General is pleased to grant them his pardon, and the like reason which led the court to recommend them to mercy, joined with others, induces the General to grant his pardon to Serjt. Kilpatrick also; at the same time, the prisoners are to consider that their crimes are of a very atrocious nature, and have by the Articles of War, subjected them to the punishment of *death* , that the remission of their punishment is a signal act of mercy in the Commander in Chief, and demands every grateful return of fidelity, submission, obedience and active duty, in any future military service which he shall assign them. The prisoners are to quit the horse, and enter into the foot service, in the corps to which they shall be assigned.

Francis Fawkes and George House of Col. Moylan's regiment, tried by the same Court Martial, being charged with “Mutiny and desertion,” are found guilty; but some favorable circumstances appearing in their behalf, they were sentenced to receive twenty-five lashes on their naked backs, and be dismissed from the horse service. The Commander in Chief approves the sentence; but for the reasons above referred to, and with the like expectations of amendment, remits the punishment of whipping. They will be disposed of in the foot service.

Thomas Rannals of Col. Moylan's regiment tried by the same Court Martial, charged with “Desertion,” is found guilty, and sentenced to suffer *death* . The Commander in Chief approves

the sentence; but the execution of the prisoner is respited till further orders.

Col. Lawson[45] having already had the command of the 4th. Virginia regiment, is to continue in the same.

Col. Elliot[46] is appointed to the command of the 6th Virginia regiment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near Cross Roads, August 20, 1777.

Parole Norway. Countersigns Norfolk, Norwich.

The order, by which Col. Armand's Corps was annexed to Genl. Conways brigade is countermanded.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to approve of the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 18th instant, whereof Col. McClenahan[47] was president.

Lieut. Ambrose Crane of Col. Stewarts regiment, charged with "Breaking his former arrest, and going to Philadelphia in company with two officers of Col. Stewarts regt. likewise under arrest, without Colonel Stewart's knowledge or permission," pleaded guilty, sentenced to be cashiered.

Lieut. Benj. Holmes of the 2nd. Virginia regiment charged with "behaving in a manner unbecoming an officer and a Gentleman." The Court unanimously acquitted the prisoner of the charge exhibited against him.

Jacob Moon, Pay Master to the 14th. Virginia regiment charged with "Ungentleman like behaviour, and defrauding the soldiers out of their pay"; found guilty of ungentleman like behaviour, in giving the lie to Ensign Washnam[48] and Ensign Moore,[49] and not guilty of defrauding the

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45. Col. Robert Lawson, of the Fourth Virginia Regiment. He resigned in December, 1777; served subsequently as brigadier general of Virginia Militia.

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46. Col. Thomas Elliott. He resigned in September, 1777.

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47. Col. Alexander McClanachan, of the Seventh Virginia Regiment. He resigned in May, 1778.

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48. Ensign Richard Worsham, of the Fourteenth Virginia Regiment. He was lieutenant in November, 1777; taken prisoner at Charleston in May, 1780; transferred to the First Virginia Regiment in February, 1781; served to end of the war.

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49. Ensign John Moore, of the Twelfth Virginia Regiment. He was lieutenant in November, 1777; resigned in March, 1778.

soldiers out of their pay; sentenced to be reprimanded by the Colonel in the presence of the officers of the regt. he belongs to.

Such officers as have not yet settled their ration accounts, are notified that Mr. Bate[50] is obliged to leave Camp the first September; and that those accounts which are not brought in by that time, cannot be settled on this side Hartford. Quarter Masters who are not acquainted with the form of a Ration Abstract, can have one from Mr. Bate.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near Cross Roads, August 21, 1777.

Parole Dublin. Countersigns Dunkirk, Dorset.

The whole army is to march to morrow morning, the *General* is to beat at half after three; the *Troop* at half past four; and at five o'clock the troops are to begin their march. The Major Generals, Quarter Master General and Commissary General will receive their orders at Head Quarters, at five o'clock this afternoon. An orderly man from each regiment of horse to attend at the same time for orders.

AFTER ORDERS

Col Moylan's regiment of horse is to go the same route that the division commanded by Genl. Waynedoes. Col Sheldon's is to take the route by Trenton with Lord Stirling's; and Bland's and Baylor's are to take the middle route over Coryell's ferry. All the horse, except a few orderly, may move forward and encamp about three or four miles (or a less distance if more convenient) beyond the respective ferries they cross at, on the road they are to march. After that, they are to receive orders respectively from the officer commanding the column, or division, they are with.

The army is to remain in its present encampment till further orders.

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50. James Bate, Deputy Commissary General of Purchases.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Cross Roads, August 22, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The Brigadiers and Officers commanding brigades, are to assemble tomorrow morning at nine o'clock, at the tavern by the cross roads, to consider of the reports made to them relative to the prices of liquors sold by the sutlers; and to give their opinion upon the matter to the Commander in Chief, pursuant to the General orders of the 11th. instant.

A General court martial is to sit to morrow morning, at nine o'clock precisely, at the meeting house, not far from the cross roads, for the trial of all prisoners of the horse which shall be brought before them. Lieut. Col. White[85] of Col. Moylan's regiment is appointed president of this court.

The Commander in Chief approves of the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 19th., 20th. and 21st. instant whereof Col. McClenachen was president.

Capt. Crump[86] of the 1st. Virginia Regt. charged with "Wantonly ordering Lieut. Smith under an arrest, when he knew he was executing the General's orders; for which he has been acquitted by a General Court Martial; and for afterwards attempting to vindicate his conduct, by giving in false evidence to the Court, declaring he did not know he was acting as Brigade Major to Genl. Muhlenberg at that time." Acquitted.

Hugh Culley of the 12th. Pennsylva. Regt. charged with "letting a certain prisoner make his escape, by the name of John Kephart, confined by order of His Excellency the Commander in Chief"—acquitted.

James McDavell, charged with "Desertion from the

85. Capt. Abner Crump, of the First Virginia Regiment. He was dismissed in October, 1777.

86. Lieut. Col. Anthony Walton White, of the Fourth Continental Dragoons. He was lieutenant colonel commandant of the First Continental Dragoons in December, 1779; colonel in February, 1780; taken prisoner at Lanneaus Ferry, S. C., in May, 1780; exchanged in October; retired in November of 1782.

Sixth Pennsylvania regiment" —pleaded guilty —sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Lieut. Thomas Wishart of the 15th. Virginia regiment charged with "Neglect of duty and disobedience of orders" —found guilty of the charges against him, in the instance of neglecting to make a morning report to the Colonel of the regiment he belongs to, conformable to a regimental order; but it appearing to have proceeded from a want of knowledge of the order, and from no intentional

neglect or disobedience. The Court sentenced him to be reprimanded in a private manner by the Colonel.

Brigade Major Swaine,[87] charged with “Repeated neglect of duty, particularly in not attending for orders the 17th instant in proper time, by which means His Excellency's intentions, who had ordered *straw* and *rum* to be furnished the men, were entirely frustrated and the soldiery, particularly the sick, were left exposed to the inclemency of the weather, in a much greater degree of want of those necessaries,” found guilty of repeated neglect of duty, and not guilty of the remaining part of the charge; and sentenced to be reprimanded in General orders.

The Commander in Chief regrets, that he is so frequently obliged to censure officers in General orders for neglect of duty, and other offences, and wishes earnestly that by an attentive and punctual discharge of their duty, they would save him from a task so disagreeable and painful. Officers should in their own conduct set examples before the men of diligence and an exact compliance with every order—Delays are always dangerous; and in the military service, often attended with the most fatal consequences; especially must they be so in officers on whom the distribution of general orders depends. The General at the same time thanks those officers whose regard for the good of the service leads

87. Brigade Major Joseph Swan (Swaine), of Muhlenberg's brigade. He resigned Aug, 25, 1777.

them to bring delinquents to Justice; and assures them that such a conduct will ever meet his warm approbation; and adds positively, that for any future remissness in Brigade Majors, in any part of their duty, he will certainly suspend them, 'till the pleasure of Congress be known concerning them; as there is no possibility of conducting the affairs of an army, without the greatest punctuality in the performance of the duties of their department.

George Myer, a waggoner, charged with “Desertion and horse stealing.” Acquitted.

James Robinson of Capt. Talbot's[88] Company, in the 2nd. Pennsylvania regt., charged with “Desertion and inlisting into different regiments,” pleaded guilty, and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back well laid on.

George Bignal of the 10th Virgr. regt. charged with “Desertion.” No witnesses appearing against him, the court ordered him to be released from confinement for the present.

Adam Claise of the 6th. Virginia regt. charged with “Desertion.” No witnesses appearing against him, the court ordered him to be sent to his company.

John Brumbler, of the 10th. Virginia regt. charged with “Sleeping on his post, when on Sentry, over prisoners,” pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to receive twenty lashes on his bare back.

Edward Mealy of Capt. Thomas Bird's Company, charged with “Desertion,” ordered by the court to be sent to his company.

James Byrne of Col. Stewarts[89] regt. charged with “Desertion,” Ordered by the court to be sent to his regt.

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88. Capt. Samuel Tolbert.

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89. Col. Walter(?) Stewart.

As the Congress never have, and the General is persuaded never do intend, to give rank to any of the waggon masters in this army, except the Waggon Mr. General. They are ordered not to assume the titles of Majors, Captains, &c but to be distinguished by Division or Brigade Waggon-Master, as the case may happen to be. Waggon Masters are useful in every army; and will be supported in all their just privileges; but the way for them to obtain respect, is by a diligent and faithful discharge of their respective duties, without favor or affection to any one. This order is to extend to persons in every other department, who have not rank given to them, by their commissions, or appointments under Congress.

The Commander in Chief has the happiness, to inform the army, of a signal victory obtained at the northward. A part of Genl. Burgoyne's army, about 1500 in number, were detached towards New Hampshire, and advanced with a design to possess themselves of Bennington. Brigadier General Stark of the State of New Hampshire, with about 2000 men, mostly Militia, attacked them. Our troops behaved in a very brave and heroic manner; they pushed the enemy from one work to another, thrown up on advantageous ground, and from different posts, with spirit and fortitude, until they gained a complete victory over them. The following is a list of the prisoners, killed and wounded &c. Vizt. I Lieut. Colonel, 1 Major, 5 Captains, 12 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 2 Cornets, 1 Judge Advocate, 1 Baron, 2 Canadian Officers, and 3 Surgeons; 37 British soldiers, 398 Hessians, 38 Canadians and 151 Tories taken prisoners. The number of wounded fallen into our hands, exclusive of the above, are about 80. The number of the enemy who were slain had not been ascertained, but it is supposed

to be about 200. Their Artillery, consisting of four brass field pieces, with a considerable quantity of baggage, likewise fell into our hands.

Our loss consists of about 20 or 30 killed, and perhaps 50 wounded.

The army is to march to morrow morning (if it should not rain) precisely in the time, and manner, directed in the orders of yesterday.

The two divisions which go to Coryell's ferry, will march in this order: Genl. Greene's first, then Genl. Stephen's, and then the baggage of both divisions, in the same order as the divisions march. Genl. Greene will order an advanced guard from his division and Genl. Stephen a rear guard from his division. Each guard to be under the command of a field officer. The officer commanding the rear-guard, will detach a subaltern and thirty men, to follow in the rear of the baggage; to pick up all stragglers who escape the rear guard; and to see that the sick and lame are not neglected, but properly disposed of among the waggons.

AFTER ORDERS

Notwithstanding the army is to march to morrow, the officers necessary and who shall be notified to constitute the General Court Martial ordered to sit to morrow, to try all prisoners of the horse will stay behind, and hold the Court. The parties will notify their necessary witnesses, who will also stay behind and attend the court.

ADDITIONAL (EVENING) AFTER ORDERS

The army is not to march to morrow morning, but remain in it's present encampment 'till further orders.

FURTHER AFTER ORDERS. EVENING 10 O'CLOCK

The army is to march to morrow morning at 4 O'clock, precisely, if it should not rain, towards Philadelphia. The division under the command of General Wayne, will march and encamp near the Rising Sun, and fall into its proper place in the line of

march the next day. The whole body of horse will march at the same time, and encamp to morrow night at the three mile Run; except the officers, and others, who are or shall be notified as members, or witnesses, necessary to attend the General Court Martial of the Horse to sit to morrow.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters; at Stanton,[90] near German Town, August 23, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

No officer, or soldier, is to leave the encampment this evening, without leave in writing from the Major General or Brigadier under whom he acts; and they are desired not to give such leave unless there be very apparent cause for it.

The army is to move precisely at four in the morning, if it should not rain. The division commanded by Genl. Wayne is to take its proper place in the line (to wit, between Lord Stirling's and Genl. Stephen's division) and it is strongly and earnestly enjoined, upon the commanding officers of corps to make all their men who are able to bear arms (except the neccesary guards) march in the ranks; for it is so great a reflection upon all order and discipline to see such a number of strollers (for they cannot be called guards) with the waggons, that it is really shocking.

The army is to march in one column thro' the City of Philadelphia, going in at and marching down Front street to Chesnut street, and up Chesnut street to the Common. A small halt is to be made about a mile on this side the City, till the rear closes up, and the line is in proper order. The divisions march as follows: Greene's, Stephen's, Lincoln's, Lord Stirling's. The Horse to be divided upon the two wings. Bland's and Baylors regiments

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90. “Stenton,” the home of James Logan. It is near the present Nicetown, Pa.

upon the right. Sheldon's and Moylan's upon the left.

The following Order of March is to be observed. First—A Sub: and twelve light horse, 200 Yards in their rear a complete troop; the residue of Bland's and Baylot's regiments, 100 yards in the rear of these, a company of pioneers, with their axes &c in proper order. One hundred yards in rear of the pioneers a regiment from Muhlenberg's brigade; and close in the rear of that regiment all Muhlenberg's Field Artillery; then his brigade followed by Weedon's, Woodford's and Scotts, in order, with all their field artillery in their respective fronts. The park of artillery, and the artificers belonging thereto, in the center. Lincoln's and Lord Stirling's divisions following, with all their Brigade Artillery in the rear of their respective brigades. A regiment of Lord Stirling's division for a rear guard, and to be

150 yards from General Maxwell's brigade. Sheldon's and Moylan's horse 150 yards in the rear of this regiment, and a troop 150 yards in the rear of the regiments of horse.

The whole line is to march by sub-divisions, at half distance, the ranks and files at the most convenient distance for marching. Which is to be exactly observed in passing thro' the City, and great attention given by the officers to see that the men carry their arms well, and are made to appear as decent as circumstances will admit.

It is expected that every officer, without exception, will keep his post in passing thro' the city, and under no pretence whatsoever leave it; and if any soldier shall dare to quit his ranks, he shall receive Thirty-nine lashes at the first halting place afterwards. The officers will be particularly attentive to prevent this, not only in their own divisions, but in others also; if they should see an attempt of the kind. They are also to

prevent the people from pressing the troops.

There is to be no greater space between the divisions, brigades and regiments, than is taken up by the Artillery, and is sufficient to distinguish them: And that the line of march thro' the city may be as little encumbered as possible, only one ammunition waggon is to attend the field pieces of each brigade, and very few the Artillery park. All the rest of the waggons, baggage, and spare horses, are to file off to the right, avoid the City entirely, and move on to the bridge at the middle ferry, and there halt, but not so as to impede the march of the troops, by preventing their passing them. Not a woman belonging to the army is to be seen with the troops on their march thro' the city.

The Waggon Master General and all his Assistants together with the division, brigade and regimental Quarter Masters, are to attend the waggons, and assist the field officers appointed to that duty, in preventing any men who are allotted to attend the waggons, from slipping into the city. As the baggage will be but a little while seperated from the column, a very few men will be sufficient to guard it; and the General wishes to have as many of them, as are able, appear in the ranks, in the line of march.

The baggage and spare artillery waggons of each brigade, together with the waggons of the artillery-park, are to move in the same order that the brigades &c. do in the line, that they may more easily remit again when we have pass'd the city.

The soldiers will go early to rest this evening, as the General expects that the whole line will be on their march at the hour appointed. That this may be the case, each Brigadier is to appoint patroles, to take up all stragglers, from the camp and all others of the army who do not obey this order.

The directors of the hospital will order where the sick are to be sent.

The drums and fifes of each brigade are to be collected in the center of it; and a tune for the quick step played, but with such moderation, that the men may step to it with ease; and without *dancing* along, or totally disregarding the music, as too often has been the case.

The men are to be excused from carrying their Camp Kettles tomorrow.

A proper guard from the horse is to be posted on the road leading to the city, to take up strollers from the camp.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Derby, August 24, 1777.

Parole Chester. Countersigns Derby, Easton.

General Greene's and Genl. Stephen's divisions are to march to morrow morning at four o'clock precisely, if it should not rain, towards Wilmington, and encamp on the first good ground beyond Naaman's creek. All the horse are likewise to march at the same time, and proceed to Wilmington, and encamp on the first good ground there, or in their neighbourhood thereof.

Genl. Lord Stirling's division, and that commanded by Genl. Wayne, with the park of artillery, will remain to morrow at their present encampment, and on Tuesday follow the other divisions, beginning their march at four in the morning, if it should not rain. The Commander in Chief possitively forbids the straggling of soldiers of the two divisions which remain behind, from their quarters; and the General Officers commanding these divisions will take every precaution in their power effectually to prevent it; and likewise to prevent an inundation of bad women from Philadelphia; and for both purposes, a guard is to be placed on the road between the camp

and the city, with particular orders to stop and properly deal with both.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, August 25, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

At a General Court Martial held the 23rd. instant whereof Lieut. Col. White was president. Capt. Henry Lee, of Col. Blands regiment of light horse, charged with “Disobedience of orders ”—was tried. The sentence of the court is as follows, viz. “The Court having fully considered the charge and evidence are unanimously of opinion, that Capt. Henry Lee is not guilty of the charge exhibited against him, and do acquit him with honor. And they are also unanimously of opinion, that the charge against Capt. Lee is *groundless* and *vexatious* , and that Capt. Lee, in what he did, acted merely for the good of his troop.” The Commander in Chief approves of Capt. Lee's acquital with honor.

The whole body horse are to parade at Head Quartrs. to morrow morning precisely at five o'clock. Each officer and man to bring with him one day's provision cooked.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Wilmington, August 26, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The officers commanding corps are to see that their men's arms are immediately cleaned and put in the best order possible; that the ammunition likewise be carefully inspected, and the proper number of rounds for each man completed; that the bayonets fix well; that the flints be screwed in fast, and every thing put in perfect readiness for action.

The troops are without fail continually to

have one day's provison of meat on hand, ready cooked, and two days' rations of bread. should any complaint be made by the soldiers for want of such provisions, the commanding officers of corps must be answerable for it; unless it should appear, that the provisions were not to be had at the Commissary's; and in such case the deficient Commissary shall be accountable. Complaint has been made, that some regiments have lately been two days without provisions, owing to the negligence of their Commissary: Such conduct is insufferable and must be attended with the worst consequences. The Commander in Chief is determined to make an example, of the first Commissary, who shall be guilty of the like negligence. The Commander in Chief likewise insists, that the Commissaries shall supply the troops with hard bread. The present most common mode of supply, by issuing flour which they make into *bad* bread, not only injures their health, but is attended with delays sufficient to frustrate the most important, and well formed enterprises. As the means therefore are now

abundantly in their power, the Commander in Chief can admit no excuse, for their not supplying the troops with good bread.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, August 27, 1777.

Parole Susquehannah. Countersigns Delaware, Schuylkill. The brigades and other corps are to be in such readiness as to march at a moment's warning. To this end the officers will see that the men are kept regularly supplied with as much provision as will, when fresh, keep; and the Commissaries are peremptorily ordered to provide a quantity of hard bread ready to deliver at any sudden call.

It is expected (as there is the greatest reason to believe that our service will be active) that every species of baggage

belonging to both officers and men, will now be stored, except such as cannot be done without in the field, that the train of waggons may in consequence be reduced, and our incumbrance on this account lessened. To effect this valuable purpose, the sick are to be turned over to the Director General of the Hospital, and not taken with us, whilst the women are expressly forbid any longer, under any licence at all, to ride in the waggons, and the officers earnestly called upon to permit no more than are absolutely necessary, and such as are actually useful, to follow the army.

The number of horses, which are now so injuriously introduced, (contrary to all former practice) is also expressly forbid; as they have become a real nuisance in the army. It is expected therefore, that no officer, except those who are allowed forage, will henceforth keep a horse, but (as his baggage is carried for him) march on foot with his men: This, at the same time that it testifies a real regard to the service, will be setting a good and commendable example to the men; which in every instance ought, and it is hoped will be, the first object of a good and valuable officer.

Five waggons from each brigade are to be delivered immediately, to the Deputy Quarter Master General.

Genl. Greene's division is to march to morrow morning, and take post, on a piece of ground, which will be marked out for him, on White Clay Creek. And the militia from Chester (under the command of Col. Evans) is to march to Christiania Bridge, and there take post 'till further orders.

As the weather has been wet, and the ground damp, the men may be served with a gill of rum each.

AFTER ORDERS

General Stephen's division is to march to morrow

morning, immediately after General Green's.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, August 28, 1777.

Parole Albany. Countersigns Kingston, Kildair.

Joseph Scott Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major to General Muhlenberg, in the room of Major Swaine resigned; and is to be obeyed as such.

The cases, or canisters of spare cartridges, are to be divided into eleven equal parts, and one such part delivered to each brigade, including the two in Genl. Sullivan's division and Genl. Nash's brigade. The Brigadiers are to distribute the cases in the most equal manner among the regiments of their brigades respectively; and the commanding officers of regiments among their men.

Col Sheldon's horse are to march to White Clay Creek, and take post near Genl. Greene's, and Genl. Stephen's divisions, where Genl. Greene shall direct.

AFTER ORDERS

A General Court Martial to sit to morrow at nine o'clock in the morning, at Day's tavern, near the park of artillery, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. Col. Johnstone[17] is appointed president of this court.

ADDITIONAL AFTER ORDERS

A corps of Light Infantry is to be formed, to consist of one Field Officer, two Captains, six Subalterns, eight Serjeants and 100 Rank and File from each brigade.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, August 29, 1777.

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17. Col. Francis Johnston, of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment. He retired in January, 1781.

Parole Portsmouth. Countersigns Falmouth, Yarmouth.

Each Brigadier is to make return immediately to the Quarter Mr. General of the number of Arm-Chests necessary for carrying safely, all the spare arms, that may from time to time, happen to be in their brigades, by means of the sick, and other usual accidents.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, August 30, 1777.

Parole Northampton. Countersigns Newbern, Norfolk.

Information being given by the Commissary General, that it is at present impracticable to supply the army daily with hard bread; the troops are to receive soft bread or flour, as the Commissaries shall be able to supply them. The Commissaries are nevertheless to exert themselves to the utmost, constantly to supply the troops with bread, either hard or soft, and without fail to have a large quantity of hard bread made ready, to be issued, whenever the army marches.

Brigadier Genl. Maxwell will take the Command of the corps of light Infantry.

Brigadier Genl. Conway, as eldest officer, will take the command of Lord Stirling's division, 'till the state of his Lordship's health shall permit his joining it.

John Kennon was on the 1st. of May 1777 appointed Pay Master to the 6th. Virginia regiment. The Commander in Chief approves of the appointment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, August 31, 1777.

Parole Rockingham. Countersigns Arlington, Abingdon.

Every officer commanding a troop or company is immediately to make out his muster-rolls to the first of September, that the whole army may be mustered with the utmost expedition. Officers commanding corps not annexed to any particular division, or brigade, will apply to the muster Master of the nearest division who will muster all such corps.

A General Court Martial is to sit to morrow at 9 o'clock in the morning at Mr. Lawson's at the Cross Keys near the Academy, for the trial of Lieut. Troup a prisoner in the provost. Brigadier General Knox is appointed president of this court.

Genl. Potter will order two battalions of Militia, (each to be 250 strong, rather more than fewer) to march, one to Richling's ling's ford, and the other to Gibson's ford, to take post on the east side of the Brandiwine, and fix upon the best ground for defending those passes.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, September 1, 1777.

Parole Stanwix. Countersigns Arnold, Gansevoort.

Mr. Austin Sandridge was on the 15th. instant appointed Quarter Master to the 6th. Virginia regt. and is to be regarded as such. The guards after to day are to be releived in the morning at 9 o'clock.

The Commander in Chief has the pleasure to inform the army that on the approach of Genl. Arnold with his detachment, the enemy raised the siege of Fort Stanwix and fled with such precipitation, that they left their tents standing, with their ammunition, baggage, stores, four Royals[34] &c &c &c have fallen into our hands, and that a party sent out by Col. Gansevoort[35]

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34. Small mortars.

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35. Col. Peter Gansevoort, of the Third New York Regiment. He commanded at Fort Stanwix (Fort Schuyler), N. Y, and Congress thanked him and his men by resolution of October 4 for his defense of the fort and appointed him colonel-commandant of it; he was brigadier general of New York Militia, after he retired in 1781, to the close of the war.

who commanded at the fort, brought in a number of prisoners and deserters.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, September 2, 1777.

Parole Haverhill. Countersigns Andover, Bradford.

The Honorable the Congress having desired the Commander in Chief to detach from the militia, as soon as possible such a number of workmen, as he should think necessary, to repair with dispatch, the arms now in the city of Philadelphia, The Brigadiers of the militia are earnestly desired to make immediate enquiry, in their several brigades, for such workmen, and without a moments delay, detach, under the care of proper officers, all who are not wanted to repair the arms of their brigades, to Philadelphia, there to receive directions from the board of war.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial held the 30th and 31st. of August last, whereof Col. Johnston[49] was president, and orders them to be put in execution immediately.

Serjt. Dickinson,[50] of Capt. Gibbs Jones's[51] company of artillery, charged with "Desertion," found guilty, and sentenced to be reduced to a matross.

John Adair, a Corporal in the same Company, charged with "Desertion," found guilty, and sentenced to be reduced to a matross.

John Donnelly of the 5th. Pennsylv. regt. charged with "Insulting, and charging his Bayonet on Capt. Ashmead,"[52] pleaded guilty; sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back.

James McCracken, of Col. Proctor's[53] regiment, charged with "Desertion from Trenton Camp." The court released the prisoner from confinement for want of evidence.

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49. Of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment. He retired in January, 1781.

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50. Sergt. John Dickinson. *The Pennsylvania Archives print* this name as Dickson.

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51. Of Bernard Romans Pennsylvania independent artillery.

52. Capt. Jacob Ashmead, of the Second Pennsylvania Regiment. He resigned in May, 1780.

53. Col. Thomas Procter, of the Fourth Continental Artillery. He resigned in April, 1781.

George Leard of Capt. Bower's[54] Company in the 6th. Pennsylvania regiment, charged with "Desertion," pleaded guilty, sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back, and to be sent on board one of the Continental frigates, to serve during the war.

Matthew Smith Esqr. is appointed Deputy Adjutant General in the Continental Army; and he is to be respected and obeyed as such.

A General Court Martial is to sit to morrow morning at nine o'clock, at Newport, at Conradt Gray's tavern, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. Col. Lawson[55] is appointed president of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, September 3, 1777.

Parole Oxford. Countersigns Norton, Nottingham.

John Parker Esqr. is appointed paymaster to the 8th. Pennsylvania regt. in the room of John Boyd Esqr. resigned.

As the enemy's motions will be sudden, and perhaps rapid, the General positively orders the commanding officers of corps to keep their men in camp, by no means suffering them to ramble about, out of the verge of it. The discharge of two field pieces is to be considered by the Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades as an alarm, and as a signal for getting the men under arms; and to the waggon–masters for putting to their horses. Upon the firing the alarm guns, the general officers, after giving the necessary orders for parading their men, are to repair immediately to Head Quarters.

The division commanded by Genl. Wayne, is immediately to incamp on the left of Genl. Sullivan. Genl. Nash to

54. Capt. Jacob Bower (Bauer).

55. Col. Robert Lawson, of the Fourth Virginia Regiment. He resigned in December, 1777, and served, subsequently, as brigadier general of Virginia Militia.

encamp on the left of Genl. Wayne, and Lord Stirling's division on the left of the whole. Genl. Knox will fix on a proper place for the park of artillery in this encampment. The Quarter Master General and Engineers will mark out the whole without loss of time. All the waggons that are not absolutely necessary are to be kept on the east side of the Brandewine.

A subaltern and 25 men are to mount guard daily at the Fort at Christiana. Genl. Knox will see what artillery men are necessary to place there and give orders accordingly.

It is expected that the officers of every Corps will immediately inspect the men's arms and ammunition, to see that every thing is in order. If any of the Continental troops are without arms, the commanding officer of the Corps to which they belong, is to apply to the Adjutant General, for orders on the Commissary of military stores, for such as are wanted.

A detachment of men properly officered are to parade at sun sett this afternoon atwith at least twenty four rounds of ammunition two days' provision ready dressed and their blankets.

The officers appointed to overlook the fatigue parties are earnestly exhorted to keep the men to their duty and see that the work goes on briskly.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held August 30th 31st and Sept. 2nd whereof Col. Johnston was president.

Peter Linch a Matross in Capt. Gibbs Jones's company of artillery, charged with “Desertion”; found guilty and sentenced to have the hair on the front part of his head shaved off without soap, and a quantity of tar and feathers fixed on the place as a substitute for hair, then to run the Gauntlope in the

company to which he belongs, provided nevertheless that the stripes which he shall receive while running the gauntlope, shall not exceed one hundred; and then to be sent on board one of the Continental frigates to serve during the war.

Daniel Fennel of Col. Proctor's regt., charged with “Deserting from the said regiment,” found guilty, and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back, and to forfeit one month's pay for the use of the sick.

Daniel Halley of the 11th. Virginia Regt. charged with “Abetting the cause of a deserter from Col Proctor's regiment of artillery, and with collaring Col. Proctor”; found guilty, and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back.

James Martin of the 2nd. Pennsylv. regt. charged with“Being drunk and asleep on his post while sentinel over prisoners,” found guilty, and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back; and to have the hair from the front part of his head shaved off without soap, and tar and feathers substituted in the room of the hair.

Henry Hargood charged with “Desertion from the German regiment”; found guilty, and sentenced to suffer death: But for the reasons mentioned by the court, they recommend him to the Commander in Chief's clemency and mercy. The Commander in Chief pardons the offender.

Godfrid Oxford of the 14th. Virginia regt. charged with “Desertion, getting drunk and loosing his arms”; found not guilty of desertion; but guilty of getting drunk and losing his arms; and sentenced to receive one hundred lashes on his bare back, and to pay for his arms lost.

AFTER ORDERS

The several divisions of the army are to remain in their encampments, as they were this morning, but to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning; and neither officer nor soldier is to be out of hearing of the drum of his brigade, And the more certainly to get and keep the men in their quarters, the rolls are to be regularly called, and all absent men looked up and brought to their regiments.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, September 4, 1777.

Parole Culloden. Countersigns Cumberland, Colchester.

As a full supply of hard bread cannot at present be obtained, all that now is in, or shall come to, the hands of the regimental quarter masters, is to remain there, and not be distributed, but upon the most pressing exigency, and when the troops are about to march, and then not without orders from their Brigadier. In the mean time the army is to be furnished with soft bread, or flour, which the Commissaries are enjoined to supply with more punctuality than they have done. The Commander in Chief can no longer excuse the neglects in that department.

Much injury having been done to the soldiers, and some lives lost, by their being taken by their officers from the hospital too soon, and without the concurrence of the superintending physician; that practice is absolutely forbidden; and henceforward not a man is to be taken from the hospital, 'till regularly discharged by the directing physician, in writing under his hand.

Notwithstanding all the cautions, the earnest requests, and the positive orders of the Commander in Chief, to prevent *our own army* from plundering *our own friends and fellow citizens* ,

yet to his astonishment and grief, fresh complaints are made to him, that so wicked, infamous and cruel a practice is still continued, and that too in circumstances most distressing; where the wretched inhabitants, dreading the enemy's vengeance for their adherence to our cause, have left all, and fled to us for refuge I We complain of the cruelty and barbarity of our enemies; but does it equal ours? They sometimes spare the property of their *friends* : But some amongst us, beyond expression barbarous, rob even *them* ! Why did we assemble in arms? Was it not, in one capital point, to protect the property of our countrymen? And shall we to our eternal reproach, be the first to pillage and destroy? Will no motives of humanity, of zeal, interest and of honor, restrain the violence of the soldiers, or induce officers to keep so strict a watch over the ill-disposed, as effectually to prevent the execution of their evil designs, and the gratification of their savage inclinations? Or, if these powerful motives are too weak, will they pay no regard to their own safety? How many noble designs have miscarried, how many victories been lost, how many armies ruined, by an indulgence of soldiers in plundering? If officers in the least connive at such practices, the licentiousness of some soldiers will soon be without bounds: In the most critical moments, instead of attending to their duty, they will be scattered abroad, indiscriminately plundering *friends* and *foes* ; and if no worse consequences ensue, many of them must infallibly fall a prey to the enemy. For these reasons, the Commander in Chief requires, that these orders be distinctly read to all the troops; and that officers of every rank, take particular pains, to convince the men, of the baseness, and fatal tendency of the practices complained

of; and that their own safety depends on a contrary conduct, and an exact observance of order and discipline; at the same time the Commander in Chief most solemnly assures all, that he will have no mercy on offenders against these orders; their lives shall pay the forfeit of their crimes. Pity, under such circumstances, would be the height of cruelty.

AFTER ORDERS

The tents of Genl. Sullivan's, Lord Stiriing's and Wayne's divisions, and Nash's brigade, are to be struck and packed by five o'clock to morrow morning (if the weather permit) these corps, together

with Genl. Potter's brigade, are to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning afterwards upon receiving orders. For which purpose, each brigade should be paraded, their arms grounded, and the men ready to take them up at the first call. The Quarter Master General will shew the ground they are to encamp upon, in the following order: Genl. Sullivan's on the right, Lord Stirling's on the left; Genl. Nash's on the left of Genl. Sullivan's; and Genl. Potter's on the right of Lord Stirling's; but as General Potter's brigade is without tents, it will be quartered in Newport. Genl. Stephen's division and Genl. Irvine's brigade, when it leaves this place, are to form a second line; Stephen's on the right. The division commanded by Genl. Wayne is to form a third line; Genl. Greene's division remains where it is.

General Knox will fix upon a proper spot for the park of artillery, in this encampment, and direct such spare ammunition as he shall think absolutely necessary, to attend the park and respective divisions; the residue to be left, together with all the baggage that can possibly be spared, on the east side of Brandywine, under a small guard from each brigade, with proper officers, the whole of these guards to be under the care of a colonel.

General Armstrong will recall the troops posted at the different fords on Brandewine, and order them to join their respective brigades.

General Irvine's brigade is to remain in Wilmington 'till further Orders; and to expedite the works there carrying on, as much as possible.

One Colonel from Genl. Nash's brigade will take the command of the baggage guard—This guard is to be composed of the most indifferent men, and supplied with the arms least fit for service. The Colonel will cause all the baggage waggons left behind, to be collected on the east side of Brandewine, in the most convenient place, and ranged (those of each brigade by themselves) in regular order.

The men ordered for guards and fatigue will attend that service, but carry with them their arms and ammunition, and all the baggage they intend to take with them to the new encampment, to which they are to march to morrow night, except the guards, who are to remain 'till relieved.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, September 5, 1777.

Parole—. Countersign—.

The Commissary General of prisoners informs the commanding officers of regiments and other corps, that notwithstanding the orders heretofore issued for that purpose; he has received but one small return of prisoners, taken by the enemy, since his appointment; in consequence of which neglect, it will be impossible for him, in case of an exchange, to pay proper attention to the order of the different captures, as to time. He further

informs them, that in future, the prisoners will be exchanged according to the returns hereafter made to him.

As baggage waggons are at all times a great incumbrance to an army, and would be particularly so, in a day of battle; they are in the latter case to be driven off the field, that the army may not be in the least incommoded by them. Tis besides a measure which common prudence dictates: And whenever an action is expected, the Quarter Master General will immediately wait on the Commander in Chief, to receive his directions respecting them.

From every information of the enemy's designs, and from their movements, it is manifest their aim is, if possible, to possess themselves of Philadelphia. This is their capital object. 'Tis what they last year strove to effect; but were happily disappointed: They made a second attempt at the opening of this campaign; but after vast preparations, and expence for the purpose, they abandoned their design, and totally evacuated the Jersies. They are now making their last effort; to come up the Delaware it seems, was their first intention; but, from the measures taken to annoy them in the river, they judged the enterprise, that way, too hazardous. At length they have landed on the eastern shore of Maryland, and advanced some little way into the country: But the General trusts, they will be again disappointed in their views. Should they push their design against Philadelphia, on this route, their all is at stake; they will put the contest on the event of a single battle: If they are overthrown, they are utterly undone, the war is at an end. Now then is the time for our most strenuous exertions. One bold stroke will free the land from rapine, devastations and burnings, and female innocence from brutal lust and violence. In every other quarter the American Arms have, of late, been rapidly successful and still greater numbers have been made prisoners. The militia at the northward, have fought with a resolution, that would have done

honor to old soldiers; they bravely fought and conquered, and glory attends them. Who can forbear to emulate their noble spirit? Who is there without ambition, to share with them, the applauses of their countrymen, and of all posterity, as the defenders of Liberty, and the procurers of peace and happiness to millions in the present and future generations? Two years we have maintained the war and struggled with difficulties innumerable. But the prospect has since brightened, and our affairs put on a better face. Now is the time to reap the fruits of all our toils and dangers! If we behave

like men, this third Campaign will be our last. Ours is the main army; to us our Country looks for protection. The eyes of all America, and of Europe are turned upon us, as on those by whom the event of the war is to be determined. And the General assures his countrymen and fellow soldiers, that he believes the critical, the important moment is at hand, which demands their most spirited exertions in the field. There glory waits to crown the brave, and peace, freedom and happiness will be the rewards of victory. Animated by motives like these, soldiers fighting in the cause of innocence, humanity and justice, will never give way, but, with undaunted resolution, press on to conquest. And this, the General assures himself, is the part the American Forces now in arms will act; and thus acting, he will insure them success.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Wilmington, September 6, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The General has no doubt, but that every man who has a due sense of the importance of the cause he has undertaken to defend, and who has any regard to his own honor and the

reputation of a soldier will, if called to action, behave like one contending for every thing valuable; But, if contrary to his expectation, there shall be found any officers, or soldiers, so far lost to all shame as basely to quit their post without orders, or shall skulk from danger, or offer to retreat before order is given for so doing, from proper authority, of a superior officer, they are to be instantly shot down, as a just punishment to themselves, and for examples to others. This order, those in the rear, and the Corps of reserve, are to see duly executed, to prevent the cowardly from making a sacrifice of the brave, and by their ill example and groundless tales (calculated to cover their own shameful conduct) spreading terror as they go.

That this order may be well known, and strongly impressed upon the army, the General positively orders the Commanding officer of every regiment to assemble his men and have it read to them to prevent the plea of ignorance.

The General begs the favor of the officers to be attentive to all strange faces and suspicious characters which may be discovered in camp; and if upon examination of them no good account can be given why they are there, to carry them to the Major General of the day for further examination; this, as it is only a necessary precaution, is to be done in a manner least offensive.

The General officers are to meet at 5 O'Clock this afternoon at the brick house by White Clay creek, and fix upon proper picquets for the security of the camp.

John Laurens and Peter Presly Thornton Esqrs. are appointed Extra Aids du Camp to the Commander in Chief; all orders therefore thro' them in writing, or otherwise, are to be regarded in the same light as if proceeding from any other of his Aides du Camp.

Notwithstanding the orders relative to slaughter houses, they are still often great nuisances to the army. The Quarter Masters of divisions therefore are to see that they are fixed at proper distances, and that all offal be well buried once a day. The Commander in Chief will look to these Quarter Masters for the execution of this order, and no excuse can be admitted for the neglect of so necessary a duty.

AFTER ORDERS

Information has been given that many of the waggon horses are suffered to go loose in the fields: the Commander in Chief strictly orders, that every night, all the waggon–horses be put to the waggons, and there kept, and if it be necessary at any time for them to go to grass, that it be only in the day time and then the waggoners must stay by them constantly; that they may be ready to tackle at the shortest notice. The waggon masters are required to see this order carefully executed. The enemy have disincumbered themselves of all their baggage, that their movements may be quick and easy. It behoves us to be alike ready for marching at a moment's warning: And for the same reason it is absolutely necessary, and the Commander in Chief positively orders, that both officers and men remain constantly at their quarters. Tattoo is no longer to be beat in camp.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Newport, September 7, 1777.

Parole Cambridge. Countersigns Dartmouth, Granby.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 3rd. instant whereof

Colonel Lawson was president.

Capt. Lipscomb[76] of the 7th. Virginia regiment, charged with "pillaging an orchard near General Weedon's quarters, and with abusing the guard which Genl. Weedon had set to protect it."

The Court unanimously acquitted him.

Lieut. Whiting[77] of the 11th. Virginia regt. and Ensign Jouett[78] of the 7th. Virginia regt. charged with "pillaging an orchard near General Weedon's quarters, and with abusing the guard Genl. Weedon had set to protect it." The Court unanimously acquitted them.

Quarter Master Rhea[79] of the 7th. Virginia regiment, charged with "Making a partial distribution of provisions." The Court unanimously acquitted him.

The Commander in Chief also approves the following sentences of the same court martial, held the 5th. instant, and orders them to be put in execution.

Lieut. Alexander Houston of Colo. Patron's regimt. charged with "Absenting himself from the regiment from the 8th. to the 12th. of August without leave"; pleaded guilty; sentenced to be reprimanded by the Colonel of the regiment he belongs to.

Lieut. Bradford[80] of Col Pattons regt. charged with "Ordering a soldier to pull apples contrary to General orders." It appearing to the Court the prisoner had been under arrest thirteen or eighteen days, and no witnesses appearing against him the court are of opinion he should be released from his arrest.

The General has received a confirmation of the intelligence mentioned in the after orders of last night that the enemy have disincumbered themselves of all their baggage, even to their tents, reserving only their blankets, and such part of their cloathing as is absolutely necessary. This indicates a speedy and rapid movement, and points out the necessity of following the

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76. Capt. Reuben Lipscomb. He was transferred to the Fifth Virginia Regiment in September, 1778; died Oct. 3, 1778.

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77. Lieut. Henry Whiting.

78. Ensign Robert Jouett. He was promoted to lieutenant September 28; transferred to the Fifth Virginia Regiment in September, 1778; transferred to the First Continental Artillery in January, 1779; wounded at Eutaw Springs, S.C.; served to end of the war.

79. Lieut. John Rhea seems to have been acting as quartermaster for the Seventh Virginia Regiment.

80. Lieut. James Bradford, of Patton's Additional Continental regiment. He was taken prisoner at Monmouth, N.J.; became aide to Lord Stirling in June, 1781; adjutant of the Second Continental Artillery; and was captain of United States Artillery when killed in 1791 by Indians on the Miami.

example, and ridding ourselves for a few days of every thing we can possibly dispense with. As a very imperfect obedience has been paid to former orders on this subject, it is now Once More strictly enjoined, that all baggage, which can be spared both of officers and men be immediately packed up, and sent off this day to the other side of the Brandywine. This order having heretofore been eluded, by a too indulgent construction of the general terms, in which it has been couched. The General is obliged to be more explicit, and to declare, that it is his intention the officers should only retain their blankets, great coats, and three or four shifts of under cloaths, and that the men should, besides what they have on, keep only a Blanket, and a shirt a piece, and such as have it, a great coat. All trunks, chests, boxes, other bedding and cloaths, than those mentioned, to be sent away, 'till the elapsing of a few days shall determine whether the enemy mean an immediate attack, or not. It is hoped, that none will have so little sense of propriety, as to deem a measure, so obviously for the good of the army, and the service, a hardship. It would be folly in the extreme, to hazard the loss of our baggage, for the sake of a little present convenience; a loss, which at this time would be irreparable. This disadvantage of having that to take care of, at the moment of attack, when we should be preparing for defence, is evident. The attention of both officers and men will then be wholly engrossed for it's safety and the enemy will have time to be upon us before we are ready to receive them; the consequence of this will be bustle, confusion and perhaps defeat and disgrace, the loss of our baggage, and not improbably the ruin of the army. The Commander in Chief in a particular manner looks to the General

Officers for the execution of this order in their respective divisions and brigades.

The whole army is to draw two days' provisions exclusive of to day and have it cooked, and deposited with the regimental Quarter Masters, provided salt provisions can be drawn; otherwise one day's fresh provisions to be cooked, and deposited as aforesaid, and two day's hard bread, if to be had.

All the horse, except Capt. Lewis's troop,[81] are to take post on the right of the army.

The tents of the whole army are to be struck and packed up in the waggons, to morrow morning, an hour before day; and the horses tackled. All the Corps of horse are to be saddled at the same time; and the whole Army drawn up in their respective lines.

The Qr. Mr. Genl. is to spare no pains immediately to provide waggons to carry the men's packs, that they may be perfectly light and fit for action.

No more sick to be sent to Concord, but to Birmingham.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Burmingham, September 9, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—, —.

Intelligence having been received, that the enemy, instead of advancing towards Newport, are turned another course, and appeared to have a design of marching northward—this rendered it expedient for the army to quit Newport and march northward also; which occasioned its sudden movement this morning.

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81. Capt. Charles Lewis's troop was attached to the Commander in Chief's Guard.

Such of the troops as have not been served with Rum to day, are as soon as possible to be served with a gill a man.

The Major and Brigadier Generals of the day, accompanied by the Quarter Mr. General, will immediately reconnoitre the environs of the camp; and fix on the proper places for the posting of picquets, for its security.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Burmingham, September 10, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—, —.

It being with much concern that the General hears the frequent complaints of the farmers, on account of the destruction of their fences &c. by which means their fields of grain and grass are exposed to devastation and ruin. He wishes, that officers of every rank, for the sake of Justice and reputation of the American Arms, would exert themselves, to correct this species of abuse: And this he is persuaded they will do, when it is considered, that no stronger proof can be given, of inattention or want of authority, than to suffer such practices to prevail in a country, abounding with wood, and by men with hatchets in their hands. Besides this, the injustice which individuals, or the public must sustain, by such practices, when there is no kind of necessity for them, ought to strike every body in the most forcible manner.

No baggage is to be kept upon this ground that can possibly be dispensed with; and what cannot is to be loaded an hour before day, and in readiness to remove. The Quarter Master General will have orders where to send it.

The Commissary General to have, at least three days' provisions always on hand, three or four miles, in the rear of the

army; and draw in what biscuit he can, and salt meat, for occasional serving. The Qr. Mr. General must furnish waggons for these purposes.

The men are to be provided with cooked provisions, for to morrow at least; for two days would be still better, if they can get such kinds as will keep.

The light horse, except those on duty, may lay quartered a little in the rear of Head Quarters.

A total stop is to be put, to all loose, disorderly firing in camp, as otherwise it will be impossible to distinguish guns fired for an alarm.

Two hundred and fifty men of Genl. Greene's, and two hundred of each other division, and one hundred of Genl. Nash's brigade, of Continental troops, and four hundred of Genl. Armstrong's division of militia, are to be drawn out daily, as picquets, and to assemble, those of Genl. Greene's, Genl. Wayne's, Lord Stirling's and General Stephen's divisions, and Genl. Nash's brigade, on the most convenient ground near the Artillery park. Genl. Sullivan's at the Centre of his division. From these picquets, all the necessary outguards are to be furnished; and the residue to remain at their respective places of assembling, ready to reinforce the out guards, or other duty, until relieved by new picquets. At every new incampment, these out–guards are to be posted by the Major General of the day, and Quarter Mr. General, aided by the other officers of the day. As soon as the guards are posted, a report is to be made to the Commander in Chief where they are; these picquets are to be

under the command of the Major General of the day, and under him, by the Brigadier General of the day. Each division will furnish a field officer, and a proportion of other officers, to take charge of it's own picquet; but Genl. Armstrong's division

will furnish two such field officers. These picquets are to parade at five o'clock daily.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Birmingham, September 11, 1777.

Parole Williamsburgh. Countersigns Hampton, Norfolk.

(Battle of Brandywine.)

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Chester, September 12, 1777.

Parole Schuylkill. Countersigns Derby, Germantown.

The commanding officer of each brigade is immediately to send off as many officers as he shall think necessary on the roads leading to the places of action yesterday, and on any other roads where stragglers may befound; particularly to Wilmington, where 'tis said, many have retired, to pick up all the stragglers from the army, and bring them on. In doing this, they will proceed as far, towards the enemy, as shall be consistant with their own safety, and examine every house. In the mean time the troops are to march on in good order thro' Derby to the bridge over Schuylkill, cross it, and proceed up to their former ground near the falls of Schuylkill, and Germantown, and there pitch their tents. Genl. Greene's division will move last and cover the baggage, stores &c.

A gill of rum or whiskey is to be served out to each man who has not already received that allowance.

General Maxwell's light Corps will remain at Chester, collect all the stragglers they can, and to morrow morning follow the army.

The directors of the hospital will see, that all

the sick, and wounded be sent to Trenton. In doing this, General Maxwell will give them all necessary assistance.

The General expects that each Brigadier, or officer commanding a brigade will immediately make the most exact returns of their killed, wounded and missing.

AFTER ORDERS

The officers are, without loss of time to see that their men are completed with ammunition; that their arms are in the best order, the inside of them washed clean and well dried; the touch–holes picked, and a good flint in each gun. The strictest attention it is expected will be paid to this order as the officers must be sensible their own honor, the safety of the soldier, and success of the cause depends absolutely upon a careful execution of it. The commanding officer of each ferment is to endeavour to procure such necessaries, as are wanting, for his men. No time is to be lost in doing this.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near Germantown, September 13, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—, —.

The General, with peculiar satisfaction, thanks those gallant officers and soldiers, who, on the 11th. instant, bravely fought in their country and its cause. If there are any whose conduct reflects dishonour upon soldiership, and their names are not pointed out to him, he must, for the present, leave them to reflect, how much they have injured their country, how unfaithful they have proved to their fellow–soldiers; but with this exhortation, that they embrace the first opportunity which may offer to do justice to both, and to the profession of a soldier. Altho' the event of that day, from some unfortunate circumstances, was not so favorable as could be wished, the General has the satisfaction of

assuring the troops, that from every account he has been able to obtain, the enemy's loss greatly exceeded ours;[3] and he has full confidence that in another Appeal to Heaven (with the blessing of providence, which it becomes every officer and soldier humbly to supplicate), we shall prove successful.

The Honble Congress, in consideration of the gallant behaviour of the troops on Thursday last, their fatigue since and from a full conviction that on every future occasion they will manifest a bravery worthy of the cause they have undertaken to defend, having been pleased to order thirty hogsheads of rum to be distributed among them, in such manner as the Commander in Chief should direct. He orders the Commissary General of Issues, to deliver to each officer and soldier, one gill per day, while it lasts.

The commanding officer of each brigade, without delay is to send a number of active officers into the city, and its environs, to pick up, and bring to camp, all straggling soldiers whom they may find, as well those belonging to other brigades, as their own. Likewise a serjeant from each brigade, to the bridge over Schuylkill, to direct the soldiers as they cross, where to find their respective brigades.

At roll–calling this afternoon, the men are to be charged not to be out of *Drum–call* of their respective parades, under pain of death; nor the officers, as they value the service and dread cashiering.

The Qr Mr Genl. is to have the waggons of each brigade immediately arranged, so as to move them in their proper line, at a moment's warning. The order of the incampment at this place need not be attended to, as our stay here will be short. Each division is to encamp in as compact order as possible to night.

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3. In the *Papers of the Continental Congress* (152, 5, folio 87) is “a true Copy of a Return found in one of the British officers Marquis at the time of the Engagement at Germantown on the 4th of October. 1777”, which is headed “State British Forces and Disposition Septr 11th 1777 at the upper Ford under the Command Lt. Gl. Lord Cornwallis.” The British loss at Brandywine appears on this paper as 1,976, but no distinction is made as to what proportion of this total were killed and what wounded. Charles Thomson has indorsed this document “Copy of a return of the British forces and of the killed and wounded at the Battle of Brandiwine.”

All the Continental troops are to be supplied immediately, with forty rounds of cartridges, and the officers will see, that the soldiers carry their spare ammunition, in such a manner, as to avoid injury and loss.

The Cloathier General is ordered to send spare shoes, shirts &c. to camp, to furnish such men as are destitute. The commanding officers therefore of corps are to delay no time, in supplying the absolute wants of their men.

The General does most ardently exhort every officer to attend to the due and speedy execution of these orders without a moment's loss of time.

AFTER ORDERS

The following proportion of tents is allowed the army upon the next march, vizt.

One soldier's tent for the field Officers of each regiment.

One ditto...for every four commissioned officers.

One do ...for eight Serjeants, Drums or fifes.

One do ...for eight privates.

The Brigadiers to have returns made out, and the above proportion of tents taken for their brigades, and one waggon for every fifty tents, and no more. No woman under any pretence whatsoever to go with the army, but to follow the baggage. The soldiers are to carry their camp kettles, which, if the army should come to action, are to be put into waggons with the tents. The invalids, under a good subaltern, are to guard the tents of each brigade.

The division Commissaries are directed to have a constant supply of provision for the troops, and the Qr Mr General must without fail furnish the necessary waggons for that purpose. A gill of rum or other spirits a day to be dealt out to each officer and private until further orders. The Commissaries are to make provision accordingly.

The army to be ready to march precisely at *nine*

o'clock to morrow morning. The General Officers, commanding divisions will receive the order of march from the Q M Genls. who will also direct the route of the baggage.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters,September 14, 1777.

Parole Vigilance. Countersign Safety.

The army is to march to morrow morning as soon as it I well light.[24]

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, near the Warren tavern, September 15, 1777.

Parole Frankfort. Countersign Dover.

The whole line, while it continues unseperated, is to furnish 600 men properly officered, for guards &c. Each brigade to give in proportion to it's strength. These men are to be under the immediate direction of the Major General, and other officers of the day, who, with the assistance of the Q Mr General, agreeably to the order of the 10th. instant, are to see that these out-guards are posted in such manner, as most effectually to secure the camp. If the different avenues to it, should not require the above number, the overplus are to remain, as a picquet near the park of artillery, and be always ready to reinforce any guard, or answer any other purpose that the Major General, or other officers of the day shall think necessary. These guards in common are to parade at eight o'clock in the morning, near the artillery park; but whenever the troops are to march, they are to assemble there at least half an hour before the time appointed, for the march of the army; and from thence the Major General, or other officers of the day will order so many of them, as he or they shall think necessary, to move on with the Qr. Masters to the place of destination, and after the grounds and all the avenues

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24. In the Toner Transcripts in the Library of Congress is a copy of the following general orders, attributed to Washington, under date of September 14. The source is not stated: “The troops are to march to Swedes' Ford in the following order, be subdivisions from the right, viz: First, two-thirds of the Light Dragoons, from which their commanding officer will detach small parties in front, to reconnoitre o the flanks to a considerable distance. Second, a Captain's command from General Smallwood's Brigade, 800 yards in their rear. Third, one regiment from same brigade, 200 yards in *their* [rear]. Fourth, the main body of the army 500 yards is their rear, in the following order, viz: 1st. General Sullivan's Division, 2d. Lot, Stirling's, 3d. General Wayne's, 4th. Park of Artillery, 5th. General Nash's Brigade, 6th. General Stevens' Division, 7th. General Greene's. Fifth, the wagons with stores, hospital stores, and commissaries' stores. Sixth, a rear guard of two regiments from Weedon's Brigade. Seventh, a Captain's command from these two regiments, at the distance of 200 yards. Eight, the remaining third of the Light Dragoons, 500 yards from the foot. Ninth, a subaltern's command from these Dragoons, at the distance of 500 yards.

"The guards in front and rear, and each brigade, to send out small flanking parties on their left. The rear guard of foot, and the Light Dragoons, to pick up all stragglers."

to the new incampment, are well reconnoitred, the guards are to be posted.

DEATH FOR COWARDICE

Such troops as have not been supplied with their complement of cartridges, agreeably to the orders of the 13th. instant, are to be furnished instantly. The troops are also to get provisions cooked, for to morrow at least. The Cloathier Genl. is attending with shoes &c; the officers commanding regts. are to delay no time in getting their men supplied.

In future, whenever the men are formed for action, the Serjeants are to be placed in the ranks, on the flanks of subdivisions, that the benefit of their fire may not be lost. The Brigadiers and Officers commanding regiments are also to post some good officers in the rear, to keep the men in order; and if in time of action, any man, who is not wounded, whether he has arms or not, turns his back upon the enemy, and attempts to run away, or to retreat before orders are given for it, those officers are instantly to put him to death. The man does not deserve to live, who basely flies, breaks his solemn engagements, and betrays his country.

Such men belonging to Genl. Maxwell's light corps as have returned to their regiments, are again to join Genl Maxwell without delay; and the officers commanding regiments are to make diligent search for those men, and see that they are sent to join that corps immediately.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Yellow Spring, September 17, 1777.

Parole Connecticut. Countersigns Fairfield, Fairfax.

The commanding officers of brigades are immediately

to dispatch two or three careful officers who are best mounted, into the rear of the line of march yesterday, as far back as General Maxwell's quarters, where the army last drew up, to examine all houses, barns and huts on the way, and collect and bring on all stragglers from the army. The Brigadiers and other officers are immediately to examine the arms and ammunition of their men; and spare no pains to preserve such ammunition as is not already damaged, and to put the arms

in the best order possible—such as are loaded to be drawn, if practicable; if they cannot be drawn they are to remain loaded; for not one gun is to be fired in order to clean it. The General desires the officers to pay the most particular attention to these orders, as not only their own safety, but the salvation of their country may depend thereon; such ammunition as is damaged is likewise to be carefully saved, to be returned to the park of artillery, the first convenient time. To this point also the officers will now, and at all times pay attention as the lead is of vast importance to us.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, September 20, 1777.

Parole Cambridge. Countersigns Roxbury, Watertown.

It is with the utmost concern, that the General

observes, a continual straggling of soldiers on a march, who rob orchards and commit other disorders; and that many officers pay little or no attention to prevent a practice attended with such mischevious consequences, notwithstanding the orders relative thereto. The officers are reminded that it is their duty, and the General expects, that for the future, they know precisely, the number of men in their division or platoon; and where the time will admit of it, take a list of their names, previous to their marching; and that on a march they frequently look at their division to see if it be in order, and no man missing.

The General has reason to think that many officers neglect to call the rolls of their companies daily, agreeably to former orders, and that many cannot properly account for their absent men. This is a neglect of the most dangerous tendency, and if continued, the army will soon be greatly reduced. The General therefore calls upon all officers, in the most pressing manner, as they regard their duty, and the salvation of their country, to have the rolls called night and morning, and pay the most unremitting attention to prevent a loss of their men.

The General is informed, that vast numbers of men are sent off as guards to the baggage. The Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades are without delay to send proper officers to Reading, or wherever the baggage may be, to reduce those guards and bring with the greatest dispatch to the army, the greater part of them, and those the best men, with the best arms, leaving only so many officers and men as are absolutely necessary to guard the baggage. Col. Polk who commands these guards will see that as few officers and men as possible are left with the baggage; some officers are also to be sent immediately to Philadelphia to bring away all soldiers which shall be found there.

The officers are also to see, that all soldiers who wait on officers, be armed, and do the duty of soldiers on any emergency,

particularly that the fire of so many men be not lost in a day of action.

The waggons are to be kept ready to move on the shortest notice.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, September 21, 1777.

Parole Georgia. Countersigns Grafton, Goshen.

The Honorable Congress have been pleased to appoint, The Count Pulaski, to chief command of the American light dragoons, with the rank of Brigadier General.

Some diligent officers of each brigade are to be sent immediately to all the houses within four or five miles of the camp, to find and bring all stragglers to their respective corps. the Brigadiers will see this done.

The Major Generals and Brigadiers will see that their commissaries make competent provision for supplying the troops. One person in the issuing Commissary General's department is without fail to call daily at Head Quarters to report the state of provisions, and receive orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, September 22, 1777.

Parole Watchfulness. Countersigns Caution, Security.

The Clothier General is immediately to distribute all the cloaths and shoes in his possession.

The army is to march by the right in small divisions or platoons, in this order; first Genl. Sullivan's division, then Lord Stirling's, then the park of artillery, then Genl Nash's brigade, then Genl Stephen's division, then Genl. Greene's; the officers of all ranks are to march in their proper places, and keep their

divisions, brigades, regiments and platoons in the most exact order and especially not to suffer a man to quit his place without leave, and that to be granted only, in case of absolute necessity, and then a serjeant is to be left with him to bring him on. There are to be proper guards advanced in front and on the left flank of the army.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Camp, near Potsgrove, September 23, 1777.

Parole Bethlehem. Countersigns Chatham, Dedham.

The General expects the returns of the army to morrow morning without fail, and enjoins it upon the commanding officers of corps to see that they are exactly made.

Each regiment is to proceed in making cartridges for its own use, that they may be held in store. Genl. Knox will furnish them with materials.

It is expected, as the weather is now growing cool, that the troops will never have less, than two day's provision by them. The necessity of this, the General does, in the strongest manner impress, upon the officers, in hopes they will exert themselves in seeing it executed, as the soldiers, or the service must greatly suffer, unless this is well attended to.

The General is informed that the Tin-Cannisters which were served out for the purpose of carrying ammunition, are in some instances applied to other uses; He therefore positively forbids such practices.

James Lloyd Esqr. is appointed a Volunteer Aid-de-Camp to Major Genl. Greene and to be respected accordingly.

The sick in Camp, are to be sent immediately, to the artillery park, or house or barn nearest thereto, that the Surgeons may send them in waggons to Reading. A careful subaltern Officer from each division is to go with them. If so many officers are not necessary, the Surgeon General will dismiss a part

of them. Each man is to take one day's provision with him.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Pottsgrove, September 25, 1777.

Parole Bunkerhill. Countersigns Bennington, Brandywine.

A General Court Martial is to sit immediately at the house where Genl. Conway quarters, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. Col James Wood is appointed president of this court.

One careful Subaltern from each regt. is to be sent off immediately to Bethlaem with Col. Biddle, to inspect the baggage of the army, to see if it suffers by dampness, and if it does, to have it properly dried and put up again, and then to see that it be well secured, and guarded against plunderers. These officers are to assemble at 3 o'clock in the afternoon this day, at the Q M Genls. quarters, the next house beyond Head Quarters.

Henceforward, all Brigade returns are to be made directly, to the Adjt. Genl. Ordinary weekly returns of each brigade are to be made every Monday at orderly time.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Pottsgrove, September 26, 1777.

Parole Princeton. Countersigns Trenton, Bristol.

The troops are to be ready to march at nine O'clock this morning, with all baggage packed and men paraded. To march off by the left, in the order given the day before yesterday

all the tent waggons to go next in the rear of the troops, in the order in which the troops march, and then the rest of the waggons. The leading division (Greene's) to beat a march and march, to be followed by the other troops in their order.

The Commander in Chief approves of the following sentences of a General Court Martial held the 25th. instant, whereof Col. James Wood was president.

John Farndon of Col. Hartley's regt. charged with “Desertion to the enemy, and inlisting with them.” The Court are of opinion the prisoner is not guilty of inlisting with the enemy. The Court (upwards of two thirds agreeing) do sentence the prisoner, for the charge of desertion, to suffer *death* .

James Dilworth, of Col. Moylan's light dragoons, charged with “Desertion, and attempting to go to the enemy.” Acquitted; and he is to be sent forthwith to join his regiment.

Daniel Applegate of the 1st New Jersey regt. charged with “Desertion and attempting to go to the enemy.” Acquitted and he is forthwith to join his regiment.

The base and wicked practice of plundering the inhabitants, being still continued, (notwithstanding all former orders) and in some cases, in the most atrocious manner; The Commander in Chief requires, that the General Orders of the 4th. instant, relative thereto, be solemnly read without delay, by the commanding officer of each regiment to his men. The punishment announced in those orders, will certainly be inflicted on the offenders.

The General being informed, that many regiments have but one orderly book, he in some measure ceases to wonder, that orders are so little known, and so frequently disobeyed. Until each company can be furnished with an orderly book, the officers commanding regiments are to see that their officers and men are clearly informed of every order which concerns them respectively, by reading or causing the same to be distinctly read to them.

Should there be in future, a well grounded plea of ignorance of orders, the commanding officers of regts. will consider themselves as answerable therefor.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Pennybecker's Mills, September 27, 1777.

Parole New-Castle. Countersigns Salem, Wilmington.

The General Court Martial of which Col. Wood is president, is to sit immediately, at the house' next above Head Quarters.

As the troops will rest to day, divine service is to be performed in all the corps which have chaplains.

One orderly Serjt. from each brigade is to attend forthwith at Head Quarters; And the Brigade Major will see this done invariably, every day, when orders have not been previously given for marching. An orderly Serjeant from each brigade is likewise invariably to attend General Courts martial.

Such regiments as have not already made up spare ammunition, so as to complete at least 40 rounds a man, are to do it this day without fail. The commanding officers of regiments are to see this done. And all this spare ammunition is to be marked and put into an ammunition waggon for, and to follow, each division. The men are to carry only their cartridge-boxes, and tin Cannisters full.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Pennybecker's Mills, September 28, 1777.

Parole Stillwater. Countersigns Albany, Kingston.

The Commander in Chief has the happiness again, to congratulate the army, on the success of the American Arms, at the northward. On the 19th. instant an

engagement took place between Genl. Burgoyne's army and the left wing of ours under Genl. Gates. The battle began at one o'clock and lasted 'till night, our troops fighting with the greatest bravery and not giving an inch of ground. Our loss is about 80 killed, and 200 wounded and missing; the enemy's is judged to exceed a 1000 in killed, wounded and taken prisoners. Both prisoners and deserters declare, that, Genl. Burgoyne, who commanded in person, was wounded in the left shoulder; that the 62nd. regiment was cut to pieces, and that the enemy suffered extremely in every quarter where they were engaged. Such was the ardour of our troops that wounded men, after being dressed, renewed the action. The Commander in Chief has further occasion to congratulate the troops on the success of a detachment from the northern army under Col. Browne, who attacked and carried several of the enemy's posts, and have got possession of the old french lines at Ticonderoga. Colonel Browne in these several attacks has taken 293 of the enemy prisoners with their arms; retaken more than 100 of our men, and taken 150 batteaus below the falls in Lake Champlain, and 50 above the falls, including 17 Gun boats, and 1 armed sloop, besides cannon, ammunition &c., &c.

To celebrate this success, the General orders that at four o'clock this afternoon all the troops be paraded and served with a gill of rum a man, and that at the same time there be a discharge of *Thirteen* pieces of artillery at the park.

All spare ammunition in those divisions that have not close spare waggons to secure it, is to be returned to the park of artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Pennybecker's mills, September 29, 1777.

Parole Whiteplains. Countersigns North Castle, Stamford.

The troops are to be in readiness to march this morning at

Ten o'clock.

John White Esqr. is appointed a Volunteer Aid de Camp to Major General Sullivan, and is to be respected as such.

Lieut. Col. Hendricks[3] is promoted to the rank of Colonel of the 1st. Virginia regt. in the room of Col. Reed[4] deceased.

Major Simms[5] of the 13th. Virginia regt. to be Lieut. Col. of the 6th., in the room of Lieut. Col. Headericks promoted.

Capt. Campbell[6] of the 8th. to be Major of the 13th. Virginia regiment in the room of Major Simms promoted.

The Brigadiers or Officers commanding brigades are to parade their respective brigades, at 8 o'clock to morrow morning, and under their own eyes, have exact returns made, of the officers and men, present on the ground, which returns they are immediately afterwards, to transmit to the Adjutant General. Such of their officers as are absent on duty, or sick, they are as speedily as possible, to order to join their corps. If any such officers get taken by the enemy, they will not be exchanged.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Shippack, September 30, 1777.

Parole Lynn. Countersigns Malden, Medford.

One Surgeon's mate from each division, who can best be spared, is to go to Bethlaem forthwith, to bring down the medicine chests of their respective divisions.

One hundred and fifty ax-men, from Genl. Sullivan's, Greene's, Lord Stirling's and Stephen's divisions, and Genl. Nash's brigade, are to be selected this day, and a like proportion from the other brigades. These men are always to carry their axes with them, to march with the picquets when the army moves, to prepare timber for, and repair the roads; when arrived at the new encampment, they are to cut firewood for their respective brigades. The Brigade Qr Masters are constantly to go with these

3. Col. James Hendricks. He served as colonel of the First Virginia Regiment until February, 1778.

4. Col. James Read. He died Sept. 29, 1777.

5. Maj. Charles Simms. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Virginia Regiment; transferred to the Second Virginia Regiment in September, 1778; resigned in December, 1779.

6. Capt. Richard Campbell. He was promoted to major in the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment; lieutenant colonel in February, 1778 (regiment designated Ninth Virginia Regiment in September, 1778); transferred to Fourth Virginia Regiment in February, 1781; wounded at Camden, S.C., in April, 1781; killed at Eutaw Springs, S.C., in September, 1781.

men, and direct them in the business above mentioned. For these services the ax-men are to be excused from all guards, and other ordinary duty; but when an action is expected, they are to deliver the axes to their brigade Qr. Masters (who are to be accountable for the axes of their brigades) and join their several corps. When on duty as ax-men, they are always to carry their arms with them. A list of their names is without delay, to be given to the Brigade Quarter Masters, by the respective brigade majors.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Skippack, October 1, 1777.

Parole Winchester. Countersigns Warwick, Windsor.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 28th. of Sept. 1777, whereof Col. James Wood was president.

Lieut. Robert Cragg of Col Hazens regt. charged with “Repeated disobedience of orders.” Acquitted.

Adjutant Kincaid,[31] acting Brigade Major to General Scott; charged with “Not bringing his picquet on the grand parade in proper time.” Acquitted.

Whenever a field officer is named for any duty, and he is sick or absent, the Brigade Major of the brigade to which such officer belongs is to warn another in his stead, and report his name to the Adjutant General.

When Aids-de-Camp go from camp with their Major Generals, a Brigade Major of the division is to be notified thereof and directed to attend at Head Quarters for orders at orderly time.

The Brigade Qr. Masters are to apply to the Quarter Master General for their quota of axes for the purposes mentioned in yesterday's orders. No more fences to be burnt in future, on any pretence whatever; if unavoidable necessity compels

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31. Lieut. William Kincaid, of the Twelfth Virginia Regiment. He resigned in December, 1777.

us to it, license must first be obtained from the Commander in Chief.

AFTER ORDERS

The whole army are to strike their tents to morrow morning at 8 o'clock, and get ready to march. At *nine* the march is to begin, Genl. Sullivan's division leading, followed by Lincoln's, McDougall's, Greene's; these form the first line; then the park of artillery, then the second line in this order, Stirling's division, Nash's, Stephen's. Genl. Sullivan's division to beat a march as a signal for marching, the beat to be continued by the others successively. The whole are to encamp on the new ground in the same order. General Armstrong is at the same time to move by the shortest route to the right of the first line, on the ground the Q. Mr. General will point out. The waggons to go in the rear of the army, in the order of the brigades to which they belong; All the tent waggons first.

The regimental Quarter Masters are to see that vaults be dug immediately upon the army's arrival on its new ground; and any soldier caught easing himself elsewhere is instantly to be made prisoner and punished by order of a regimental Court Martial. The Brigade Quarter Masters are without fail to see all offal buried every morning, and are to apply to their brigades for men for that purpose.

Regimental or Brigade Quarter Masters failing in the duties here required of them, are forthwith to be arrested.

Some person from each distinct body or brigade of militia is to attend daily at Head Quarters for orders at noon.

Each Brigade Quarter Master is to make an immediate return of the number of baggage waggons in his brigade, to the Qr Mr General.

An officer from each brigade is to remain 'till the troops have marched off, then to make search for and bring on all stragglers.[32]

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Wentz's, Worcester Township, October 3, 1777.

Parole Baltimore. Countersigns Boston, Charlestown.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, of which Col. lames Wood was president; held the 30th. of September 1777. Viz:

John Barret a soldier in the 10th. Virginia regiment, charged with desertion, sentenced to be reprimanded by the Colonel of the regiment he belongs to at the head of the regiment.

Peter Clutter charged with “Desertion” from Col. Spencer's regiment, found guilty, sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Ensign Richard Rout of the 12th. Virginia regiment charged with “Quitting his division the 16th. day of Septemr. when an attack was expected to be made by the enemy.” The Court are of opinion the prisoner was excusable in leaving his division on the 16th. of September on account of his being unwell.

Christian Avis of the 12th. Pennsylvania regiment, charged with “Desertion”; found guilty, and sentenced to receive fifty lashes on his bare back.

Capt. Bartholomew Von Heer[42] charged with “Disobedience of orders, in sending for the baggage of his company”; also charged with “Impressing two horses on the march, said to

32. *Cf*. the order of march September 14. (See note to General Orders, Sept. 14, 1777, *ante*.)

October 1, Gen. George Washington wrote out the following passport for his friend, Bryan Fairfax, the original of which was in the possession of Mr. Thomas Fairfax in 1891:

"The bearer hereof Bryan Fairfax, Esqr. together with his son Mr. Thomas Fairfax and their baggage has permission to pass all guards on their way to New York and the Commanding Officer at any advanced post is requested to furnish a Flag and give any other assistance to effect this purpose. Given under my hand, etc." (See Washington's letter to Bryan Fairfax, Dec. 8, 1777, *post*.)

42. Of the Fourth Continental Artillery. On June 1, 1778, he was appointed captain of the Maréchausće Corps, or provost dragoons; served to end of the war.

be for the use of the Artillery, and appropriating one of them to his own use, which he refused to give up, tho' wanted for the purpose for which it was said to be impressed"; found guilty of disobedience of General Orders in sending for the baggage of his company, and not guilty of the other charge exhibited against him. The Court do sentence the prisoner, for the charge he is found guilty of to be reprimanded by the Brigadier General of the Artillery, in the presence of the officers attached to the park of artillery.

Major Peers[43] charged with "Repeated neglect of duty in not bringing his men for picquet, on the grand parade in proper time and order; with not attending the parade when Brigade Major of the day, and also with totally neglecting to bring his quota of men, ordered to parade the morning of the 30th of Septr. at the park of artillery at sunrise"; found guilty of the whole of the charges exhibited against him and sentenced to receive a severe reprimand from the Major General of the division to which his brigade belongs, in the presence of the officers of the division.

The Court martial of which Col. Wood was president is dissolved.

A General Court Martial is to sit this day at a tent near the park of artillery, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. Col. Josiah Parker[44] is appointed president of this court.

Lewis Fleury Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major to The Count Pulaski, Brigadier General of the Light Dragoons, and is to be respected as such.

Thomas Mullens Esqr. is to act as Brigade Major to Genl. Conway 'till further orders, and to be respected as such.

The distribution of tin Cannisters is to be made as particularly directed this morning, and the officers commanding regiments are themselves to see that the cartridges are carefully stored

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43. Maj. Valentine Peers. He was brigade major to General Weedon.

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44. Of the Fifth Virginia Regiment. He resigned in July, 1778; served subsequently as colonel of Virginia Militia in 1781.

in them.

The Engineers are to make dispatch, in throwing up works, in the front of the encampment.

The Commander in Chief has the satisfaction to inform the army, that at the southward, the Continental Frigate Randolph, lately fell in with a fleet of five sail of the enemy's ships, and took four of them, one of them mounting 20 guns, and another 8, all richly laden. At the northward every thing wears the most favourable aspect, every enterprise has been successful, and in a capital action, the left wing only of General Gates's army maintained it's ground, against the main body of the enemy; commanded by General Burgoyne in person; our troops behaving with the highest spirit and bravery, during the whole engagement; which lasted from one o'clock 'till dark. In short, every circumstance promises success in that quarter, equal to our most sanguine wishes. This surely must animate every man, under the General's immediate command. This army, the main American Army, will certainly not suffer itself to be out done by their northern Brethren; they will never endure such disgrace; but with an ambition becoming freemen, contending in the most righteous cause, rival the heroic spirit which swelled their bosoms, and which, so nobly exerted, has procured them deathless renown. Covet! my Countrymen, and fellow soldiers! Covet! a share of the glory due to heroic deeds! Let it never be said, that in a day of action, you turned your backs on the foe; let the enemy no longer triumph. They brand you with ignominious epithets. Will you patiently endure that reproach? Will you suffer the wounds given to your Country to go unrevenged? Will you resign your parents, wives, children and friends to be the wretched vassals of a proud, insulting foe? And your own necks to the halter? General Howe promised protection to such as submitted to his power; and a few dastard souls

accepted the disgraceful boon. But his promises were deceitful; the submitting and resisting had their property alike plundered and destroyed. But even these empty promises have come to an end; the term of *Mercy* is expired, General Howe has, within a few days proclaimed, all who had not then

submitted, to be beyond the reach of it, and has left us no choice but *Conquest* or *Death* . Nothing then remains, but nobly to contend for all that is dear to us. Every motive that can touch the human breast calls us to the most vigorous exertions. Our dearest rights, our dearest friends, and our own lives, honor, glory and even shame, urge us to the fight. And My fellow Soldiers! when an opportunity presents, be firm, be brave; shew yourselves men, and victory is yours.

The Colonels or commanding officers are to see that every regiment be drawn up this afternoon, the rolls called, and these orders distinctly read to them.

Every officer who commands a troop or company, in the several regiments and corps in the continental army, must immediately make out his muster rolls to the first of October, that the whole army may be mustered with the utmost expedition. Such officers, as have heretofore neglected a due attention, to making a regular return of their muster rolls, will be answerable for any future neglect.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Perkiomy, October 5, 1777.

Parole Ludlow. Countersigns Manchester, Newport.

The officers commanding regiments are to make returns of the cartridges wanted for their men, to complete them to forty rounds each, and draw the materials for making them

at the park of artillery, early to morrow morning; one attentive officer from each regiment is to be present, to superintend the making of the cartridges for the regiment, and see that they are well made up, and the materials not wasted. The arms are to be cleaned and put in good order immediately; such as are charged and cannot be drawn, are to be discharged at noon, to morrow, under the direction of their officers. Each regiment is to draw 12 cartridges a man, ready made, at the park of artillery, besides the above materials.

All the detachments of horse, are to be collected as soon as possible to one place, as near as may be to the army, except the two parties under Captains Lee[50] and Craig.[51]

Returns as exact as possible are to be made of the killed, wounded, and missing in the action of yesterday, and delivered to the Commander in Chief at 4 o'clock to morrow afternoon. The Brigade Majors will be punctual in this matter, and where there are no Brigade Majors, the Brigadiers or

officers commanding brigades are without delay to appoint persons to do their duty. One set of columns are to shew the killed, of the different ranks, a second the wounded, and a third set of columns the missing.

The Commander in Chief returns his thanks, to the Generals and other officers and men concerned in yesterday's attack, on the enemy's left wing, for the spirit and bravery they manifested in driving the enemy from field to field; And altho' an unfortunate fog, joined with the smoke, prevented the different brigades seeing and supporting each other, or sometimes even distinguishing their fire from the enemy's, and from some other causes, which as yet cannot be well accounted for, they finally retreated, they nevertheless see that the enemy are not proof against a vigorous attack, and may be put to flight when boldly pushed. This they will remember and assure themselves that on the next

50. Capt. Henry ("Light Horse Harry") Lee, of the First Continental Dragoons.

51. Capt. Charles Craig, of the Fourth Continental Dragoons. He had been wounded at Brandywine.

occasion, by a proper exertion of the powers which God has given them, and inspired by the cause of freedom in which they are engaged, they will be victorious. The Commander in Chief not seeing the engagement with the enemy's right wing, desires the General officers who commanded there, to thank those officers and men who behaved with becoming bravery; and such in either wing who behaved otherwise are to be reported.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Perkiomy, October 6, 1777.

Parole Fredericksburg. Countersigns Fairfax, Frankfort.

The commanding officers of regiments are without delay to send to the provost for such of their men as have been tried and their sentences published.

The Battalion of militia from Virginia, commanded by Col Rumney,[52] are to be attended to and do duty with General Scott's brigade.

Brigadier Genl. Pulaski will make a return of the horse as soon as possible.

Thomas Mullen Esqr. appointed the 3rd. instant to act as Brigade Major to Genl. Conway, is now, for his gallant behaviour on the 4th. instant, appointed Brigade Major to General Conway, and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

John Laurens Esqr. appointed on the 6th. of September extra Aid de Camp to the Commander in Chief, is now appointed Aid de Camp to him, and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

The commanding officers of corps are every morning to report the strength of them to their Brigadiers or officers commanding brigades, that it may be known daily

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52. Col. William Rumney, of the Virginia Militia.

what stragglers have joined.

Buckshot are to be put into all the cartridges which shall hereafter be made.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Perkiomy, October 7, 1777.

Parole Milton. Countersigns Medway, Marlboro.

The state regiment from Virginia is to supply the place of the 9th. Regiment in Muhlenberg's brigade, and do duty there 'till further orders.

John Farndon of Col. Hartley's regiment, found guilty of the crime of *desertion* , and sentenced by the General Court Martial, held the 25th. of September last, to suffer death is to be executed to morrow at twelve o'clock.

The situation of the army, frequently not admitting, of the regular performance of divine service, on Sundays, the Chaplains of the army are forthwith to meet together, and agree on some method of performing it, at other times, which method they will make known to the Commander in Chief.

A General Court martial, to sit at nine o'clock this morning, at a Horseman's tent by the artillery park, for the trial of divers officers, accused of cowardice, and of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. The court to consist of four field officers and nine Captains. Col Brodhead is appointed president.

AFTER ORDERS

The troops are to march to morrow morning at eight o'clock.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Perkiomy, October 8, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The Brigade Majors are to make returns to morrow, of the number of arms and accoutrements, wanting in the several regiments of their brigades, in order to their being completed without delay. They are also at the same time to make returns of the number of tin cannisters now in their brigades.

The battalion of militia from Virginia, commanded by Major Pickett,[8] are to be attached to, and do duty with, General Woodford's brigade.

The men's pouches are to be well greased at least once a week, especially that part of the flap which preserve them from injury in case of rain. The commanding officers of corps will pay attention to this.

The commanding officers of corps are immediately to select the most suitable of their men, and set them to making Mockasins for their corps. The Commissaries are to order the skins of the heads and legs of bullocks to be taken off, and applied to that use so far as they will go. The Commissaries also are to issue the raw hides for the purpose, upon the returns of the officers commanding corps.

John Farndon of Col. Harfley's regiment, sentenced to suffer death, for the crime of “desertion to the enemy,” and who was to have been executed yesterday, is to be executed to morrow at 12 o'clock. A detachment of Sixty men from each brigade is to parade at the park of Artillery at that time, to attend the execution.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 9, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The General Court Martial whereof Col. Brodhead is president, is to sit to morrow morning, at eight o'clock, the

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8. Maj. William Pickett.

members to attend precisely at that time, at the horseman's tent, by the artillery park.

By General Orders of Sept. 13th. the distribution of tents was thus directed.

One soldier's tent for the field officers of each regt.

One ditto for every four commissioned officers.

One ditto for every eight Serjeants, Drummers andFifers.

One dittofor every eight privates.

The commanding officers of regiments are instantly to examine into their number of tents, and cause all beyond the foregoing allowance to be collected and delivered to their brigade quarter masters, in the first place to supply those corps in their brigades which are short of that allowance, and the residue to be delivered over to the Quarter Master General, to supply these militia, and such corps as are destitute. The Commander in Chief expects, the General officers and those commanding brigades will see this order carried into effectual and immediate execution.

Brigadier General Nash will be interred, at ten o'clock this forenoon, with military honours, at the place where the road the troops marched in, yesterday comes into the great road.

The execution of John Farndon is to be postponed till to morrow morning.

The General Officers are, without delay, to have the rolls of officers called, and such as are absent, and not sick, wounded or on command, are to be ordered peremptorily to join their corps; and those who are absent without leave, are to be immediately reported to the Commander in Chief. They are also to report the number of blankets, stockings, shoes, and other necessaries to complete one suit to each man.

True field returns of the troops are to be made

under the immediate inspection of the General officers. For this purpose, the several corps are to be mustered, and the rolled called; and if the weather permit, these returns are to be made to morrow-noon, signed by the Major Generals, or officers commanding divisions.

The Brigadiers, or officers commanding brigades, are immediately to report, the number of men, of those returned *missing* after the action of the 4th. instant, who have joined their brigades since the returns of the *killed* &c. and these reports they will continue to make daily to the Commander in Chief.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 10, 1777.

Parole Burlington. Countersigns Cambridge, Danbury.

A court of enquiry consisting of four members, and Major General Lord Stirling President, to sit at 12 o'clock to day, at the president's quarters, and examine into the conduct of Major General Sullivan in the expedition commanded by him to Staten Island in the month of August last. Major Taylor[15] and others, who can give information of this matter are to attend: But if the court see cause to postpone the examination for want of evidence, after hearing what Major Taylor has to urge on that head, they are to do it accordingly. Genl. McDougall, General Knox, Colonel Spencer,[16] and Col. Clark[17] are appointed members.

The General being informed, that much provision is wasted by the irregular manner in which it is drawn and cooked, does, in earnest terms, exhort the officers commanding Corps to look into and prevent abuses of this kind, and in very express terms also desires that they will see that their men have provisions by them, ready for any emergency. And more over that they will be particularly attentive to the execution of orders,

15. Maj. John(?) Taylor, of the Second Canadian Regiment.

16. Col. Oliver Spencer, of an Additional Continental regiment.

17. Col. Thomas Clark, of the First North Carolina Regiment. He was wounded at Stono Ferry; taken prisoner at Charleston, S.C.; retired in January, 1783.

both as to time and manner, ardently wishing that the necessity of a rigid compliance with them, may be deeply impressed, upon the mind of every officer, who ought to consider how impracticable it is, to carry on any military operation without it. It is not for every officer to know the principle upon which every order issues, and to judge how far it may, or may not be dispensed with, or suspended; but their duty to carry them into execution with the utmost punctuality and exactness. They are also to consider, that military movements are like the working of a clock, and will go equally regular and easy, if every officer does his duty, but without it, be as easily disordered; because neglect in any one part (like the stopping of a wheel) disorders the whole. The General expects therefore, that every officer will duly consider the importance of this observation. Their own reputation, and the duty they owe their country claim it of them, and he earnestly calls upon them to do it.

The General directs that the arms shall be put in the best order without loss of time, ammunition completed, and every thing in readiness against a sudden call, if it should be made upon us; those who want arms are to be supplied immediately, by order from the Adjutant General: But at the foot of each return, an account is to be rendered how the deficiency arises.

Promotions, in consequence of the late deaths and resignations, will now take place as a reward to the merit of deserving officers. The succession in which they are to be made, agreeable to General orders, is to be reported by the General officers of each division, or brigade (after consulting the field officers of the regiment they belong to) Officers who are under the imputation of *cowardice* , or whose characters in other respects are impeachable, are to be noted; as the General is determined to discriminate between the good and bad. This order is to be confined to promotion. No new appointments will take place at this time

in the weak state of the regiments.

AFTER ORDERS

Returns are to be brought in to morrow morning, of the number of rounds, of cartridges per man, with which each brigade is now furnished.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 11, 1777.

Parole Andover. Countersigns Bedford, Concord.

The Court of enquiry of which Lord Stirling is president, now sitting at the president's quarters, is to inquire into the charge against Brigadier General Wayne—viz: “That he had timely notice of the enemy's intention to attack the troops under his command on the night of the 20th. Ult. and notwithstanding that intelligence, he neglected making a disposition until it was too late either to annoy the enemy, or make a retreat without the utmost danger and confusion.” The president will give notice of the time when the court can enter on the enquiry; when the parties and witnesses are to attend.

Twice a week (Wednesdays and Saturdays) the officers of each company are carefully to inspect the arms, ammunition and accoutrements of their men, to see that they are in perfect order and that nothing is wanting. At the first inspection they are to take an exact account of every article belonging to each man and if afterwards any be missing, they are immediately to report the same to the officer commanding their regiment, that the matter may be enquired into, if he judges it proper, by a regimental court martial, and the delinquent punished if deserving it and charged with the articles lost, to be deducted from his wages.

The militia from the Counties of Prince William, Culpepper, Loudoun, and Berkley, in the State of Virginia are to be formed into a brigade, and be under the command of Col. William Crawford. The Qr Mr. General and Commissary General are to appoint persons therein, to do the duties of their respective departments.

All the troops that came from Peek's-kill under the command of Generals McDougall, Varnum and Huntington (Malcom's regiment excepted) are to be thrown into two brigades, in such manner as those Gentlemen shall think best; a report of which is to be made to the Commander in Chief for his further order.

Col. Malcom's regiment is to join General Conway's brigade.

Twelve light horse with an officer are to mount guard every day with the picquets and be disposed of at the different picquets for the purpose of conveying early intelligence in such a way as the Major General of the day shall direct.

The commanding officers of all those companies which were raised as part of the sixteen additional battalions, and at different times annexed to other regiments, are to make immediate returns, to the Adjutant General, of their strength, and in what regiments they are now doing duty.

The Commander in Chief has the pleasure to inform the army, that Congress have, in a unanimous resolve, expressed their thanks to the officers and men concerned in the attack, on the enemy

near Germantown on the 4th instant, for their brave exertions on that occasion; and hopes the approbation of that honorable body, will stimulate them to still nobler efforts on every future occasion.

Captain Paul Parker of Col. Hartley's regiment, is appointed to do the duty of Brigade Major in General Wayne's brigade, 'till further orders and is to be respected and obeyed as such.

All firing of guns is absolutely forbidden without licence first obtained from the Major General of the day and the instant a gun is fired, a serjeant and file of men shall be sent, to catch the villain, who is thus wasting ammunition, and alarming the camp. All officers are strictly required to see this order put in execution.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 12, 1777.

Parole Firmness. Countersigns Courage, Conquest.

Major Lockhart[30] of the 3rd. North Carolina regiment is promoted to the rank of Lieut. Colonel in the eighth regiment of the said state, in the room of Lieut. Col Ingram resigned.[31]

Capt. Henry Dixon of the 1st. North Carolina regiment, is promoted to the rank of Major in the 3rd. regiment of said state, in the room of Major Lockhart promoted.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 3rd. instant whereof Col Josiah Parker was president.

Ensign Casson[32] of the 4th. Virginia regiment, charged with “Accusing Ensign Ford[33] of Cowardice.” Also with “Getting drunk in the morning, and behaving in an ungentlemanlike manner,” found guilty of the charge brought against him, and sentenced to be discharged from the service.

Ensign Thomas Shanks of the 10th Pennsylvania regiment with “Stealing two pair of shoes from Lieut: Adams,[34] regimental quartermaster (p: tern:) to the 10th. Pennsylv: regt.,” found guilty of the charge exhibited against him, and sentenced to be discharged from the service.

Major Forrest[35] of Col. Proctors regiment of artillery, charged with “Neglect of duty, with disobedience of orders, to

30. Maj. Samuel Lockhart. He resigned Oct. 19, 1777, and is stated by Heltman to have been taken prisoner at Charleston, S.C., on May, 1780.

31. Lieut. Col. James Ingram. He had resigned July 8, 1777.

32. Ensign Charles Casson.

33. Ensign Denham Ford, of the Fourth Virginia Regiment. He was cashiered in January, 1778.

34. Lieut. Francis Adams, of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment.

35. Maj. Thomas Forrest, of the Fourth Continental Artillery. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in December, 1778; resigned in October, 1781.

the prejudice of the service, good order and military discipline, and with breaking his arrest,” found guilty of neglect of duty, and of disobedience orders, to the prejudice of the service, good order and military discipline, and not guilty of breaking his arrest, and sentenced to be reprimanded in General orders.

It appears by the evidence, that Major Forrest's conduct was highly reprehensible, because of such a nature as tends to subvert the foundation of order in an army. When an officer is directed to do any thing in the line of his duty, he ought not to reason upon the propriety of the measure, but execute it in the best manner he can, remembering that implicit obedience, which constitutes true discipline, is essential to the success, and even to the existence of an army.

It is the ardent wish of the Commander in Chief, that the duty of the camp may be performed with the greatest exactness and regularity, and he desires that the Major General, Brigadier General and Field Officers of the day attend the parade constantly, at the time of guard mounting, and see that the guard are duly marched off, and every thing conducted with propriety. Henceforward the guards are to mount at nine o'clock in the morning.

The officers have now an opportunity of attending to the discipline of the troops. Every day when the weather permits, the corps are to be turned out and practiced in the most essential exercises,

particularly in priming and loading, forming, advancing, retreating, breaking and rallying. No pains are to be spared to improve the troops in these points.

All parties and witnesses relative to the charges against General Wayne, are to attend the Court of enquiry at Lord Stirling's quarters to morrow morning at nine o'clock.

The Q. M. General is directed to procure paper immediately, that the several corps may be furnished without delay.

AFTER ORDERS

For the better security of the ammunition, each brigade Quarter Master is early to morrow morning, to go with ten ax men and five other men of his brigade, and collect with the utmost care and dispatch, all the horns[36] they can find at this, and the late encampments of the army, and immediately upon his return, report the number he shall have collected.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 13, 1777.

Parole Plymouth. Countersigns Portsmouth, Richmond.

Those Battalions and corps that have joined the army, since the third instant, are to attend to the orders of that day, with regard to making out their Muster Rolls. An immediate attention to this duty, is required of every officer, who has not already performed it.

It is with real grief and amazement that the General observes, by the late returns, how deficient of arms and accoutrements the Continental troops are. He directs, that they may be immediately supplied with muskets, and if there is not a sufficiency of cartouch boxes, that the tin Cannisters be taken from those who have cartouch boxes, to supply the defect of such as have none. After this the General positively orders that the arms, ammunition and accoutrements be examined once a day, by an officer of each company. That this may certainly be done, he expects the commanding officer of each regiment will give particular attention to the duty here enjoined. He also recommends it to the General Officers, as a matter well worthy of their care. Any soldier after this, who shall loose, sell or otherwise dispose of his arms,

36. The use of cleaned-out cattle horns in which to store cartridges was one of the devices adopted for obtaining waterproof cartridge boxes.

accoutrements or cloathing, shall be punished in the most exemplary manner, without the smallest mitigation.

As there are not spare cartouch boxes at this time, to supply the militia, Col. Crawford is desired to use his utmost skill and industry to procure horns and pouches to carry their ammunition in, or to adopt any other method, he may, upon consulting his officers, find more expeditious. He is to appoint some active person acquainted with duty, as Brigade Major pro: tempore, who will be allowed pay during the time he acts.

As many great and valuable advantages, would result, from the having the arms of a division, or even of a brigade, of the same bore, the Commander in Chief directs, that each officer commanding a brigade would have a return instantly made to him of the different Calibers and number of each kind in his brigade; and that as soon as this is done Major General Sullivan would call all the General officers, and officers commanding brigades, together, and see if such a disposition of arms can be effected, as many happy consequences would flow from it.

AFTER ORDERS

Altho' orders have been given to complete the army with 40 rounds of cartridges a man, the General did not intend that they should be distributed to the men 'till further orders, except so far as should be necessary to fill the cartridge boxes and tin-cannisters: All above that number are to be collected immediately, and deposited in a good covered waggon of the brigade or division, no delay is to be made in this matter, lest the cartridges be spoiled or lost.

The companies raised by Capts. Steel,[38] Irvine,[39] Hearsley[40] and Calderwood[41] are to join Col Malcom's regt. and compose part of it.

What blankets, shoes and breeches are in the Clothiers'

38. Capt. John Steele. He resigned Mar. 8, 1778.

39. Capt. Matthew Irvine. He resigned Jan. 20, 1778.

40. Capt. James Blakslee(?).

41. Capt. James Calderwood. Died Sept. 13, 1777, from wounds received at Brandywine.

hands are to be distributed to morrow upon application to him without further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 14, 1777.

Parole Worcester. Countersigns Springfield, Hartford.

The officers on guard are to make report of them[selves?] to the officers of the day, who will report the whole to the Adjutant General.

Doctor Craige director of the hospital at Reading has sent a list of the wounded there, whose blankets and other necessaries remain in camp. The commanding Officers of regiments are immediately to make the most diligent search for all such necessaries belonging to the wounded in their respective regiments, collect them together, and lodge them with all possible dispatch at the Qr. Mr. General's quarters. The wounded are now suffering for want of them, and not a moment is to be lost, in relieving those *brave* men, who suffered in their country's cause. The Brigade Majors are to send lists of their names, to the officers commanding regiments, without delay.

Lyman Hitchcock Esqr. is appointed to do the duty of Brigade Major, in the 2nd. Maryland Brigade, late Deborre's, and is to be respected as such.

Mr. John Lawson, Adjutant to the Prince William militia, is appointed to do the duty of Brigade Major, in the brigade of militia, under the command of Col. Crawford, and is to be respected as such.

Richard Emory Esqr. is appointed to do the duty of Brigade Major, in the first Maryland brigade; and is to be respected as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Towamensing, October 15, 1777.

Parole Gates. Countersigns Lincoln, Arnold.

The General has the repeated pleasure of informing the army of the success of the troops under the command of General Gates, over General Burgoyne's army. On the 7th instant the action commenced, about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, between the picquets of the two armies, which were reinforced on both sides. The contest was warm, and continued with obstinacy 'till evening, when our troops gained the advanced line of the enemy, and encamped on that ground all night. The enemy fled, and left behind them 330 tents, with kettles boiling with corn; 8 Brass Cannon, two twelve and six six-pounders; upwards of two hundred of their dead; and the baggage of their flying camp. General Frazier[56] is among their slain. Our troops took 550 non-commissioned officers and soldiers prisoners; besides Sir Francis Carr Clark, Aid-de-Camp to General Burgoyne, a Quarter Master General, the commanding officers of artillery, of a foreign brigade and of the British Grenadiers, and a number of inferior rank. Two of our Generals, Lincoln and Arnold, were wounded in the leg: besides these, our troops suffered very little. They behaved with great bravery and intrepidity; and have thus a second time triumphed over the valor of *veteran troops* . When the last accounts came away, General Burgoyne's army was retreating, and ours pursuing.

The General congratulates the troops upon this signal victory, the third capital advantage, which under divine providence, we have gained in that quarter, and hopes it will prove a powerful stimulus to the army under his immediate command; at least to equal their northern brethren in brave and intrepid exertions when called thereto. The General wishes them to consider that this is the Grand American Army; and that of course

56. Maj. Gen. Simon Fraser.

great things are expected from it. 'Tis the army of whose superior prowess some have boasted. What shame then and dishonour will attend us, if we suffer ourselves in every instance to be outdone? We have a force sufficient, by the favor of Heaven, to crush our foes; and nothing is wanting but a spirited, persevering exertion of it, to which, besides the motives before mentioned, duty and the love of our Country irresistably impel us. The effect of such powerful motives, no man, who possesses the spirit of a soldier can withstand, and spurred on by them, the General assures himself, that on the next occasion his troops will be completely successful.

In honor of the northern Army, and to celebrate their victory, Thirteen pieces of cannon are to be discharged, at the artillery park, at five o'clock this afternoon: previous to which, the brigades and corps are to be drawn out on their respective parades, and these orders distinctly read to them by their officers.

Those men in Col. Crawford's brigade of Militia, whose pieces cannot be drawn, are to be discharged at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

The troops are to march to morrow from the right, at seven o'clock in the morning; the Major General of the day will point out the order of march.

Brigade Returns are to be made immediately, of all the Seamen in the respective corps of the army.

The Brigadiers, and officers commanding brigades, are without the smallest delay, to make strict enquiry, for the tin Cannisters which have been issued to them, and report their number now with them, and inform what is become of the rest.

In consequence of a representation of the Field Officers of Col. Stewart's regt.[57] Capt. Patrick Anderson and Lieut. Jacob Meltz of that regiment, are hereby suspended for their

57. Thirteenth Pennsylvania Regiment.

non-attendance; and their pay is to be stopped.

A court of enquiry, consisting of five members, one of which, General Greene, is to be president, is to sit at the presidents quarters, at three o'clock this afternoon, to enquire into the charges against Brigadier General Maxwell. All witnesses are to attend at the same time. Brigadiers General Muhlenberg and Varnum, Cols. Stewart[58] and Richardson[59] are appointed members of this court.

A General Court Martial of horse Officers to sit at Col. Moylan's quarters, to morrow morning, nine o'clock in the morning, for the trial of all prisoners of the Horse, which shall be brought before them. Col. Moylan is appointed president of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Peter Wentzes, Worcester Township, October 16, 1777.

Parole Carlisle. Countersigns Lancaster, York.

The Commander in Chief positively orders, that the horse encamp compactly, in the rear of the army, and as near as possible to Head Quarters.

The regiments are to continue to draw materials for cartridges, and go on making them every day with care and dispatch, and when made, they are to be returned to the Commissary of military stores.

The Court of enquiry of which Major General Lord Stirling was president, held the 12th. instant, to examine into the conduct of Major General Sullivan, in the expedition commanded by him to Staten-Island in the month of August last, report their opinion thereon as follows—viz—

The Court after hearing the evidence against the conduct of Major General Sullivan, and those produced by him in his defence, and duly considering the same, are

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58. Col. Walter Stewart, of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Regiment.

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59. Col. William Richardson, of the Fifth Maryland Regiment.

On or about October 15 Washington wrote a hasty note to Brig. Gen. James Potter, requesting him "to take every step in your power, by manoeuvres or otherwise" to attract the attention of the enemy to relieve the pressure on Fort Mifflin. No copy of this letter seems to have been kept. The original was in the possession of a Boston dealer in November, 1930.

unanimously of opinion, that the expedition against the enemy on Staten-Island was eligible, and promised great advantage to the cause of America. That the expedition was well concerted, and the orders for the execution proper, and would have succeeded with reputation to the General, and the troops under his command, had it not in some measure been rendered abortive by accidents, which were out of the power of the General to foresee or prevent. That General Sullivan was particularly active in embarking the troops to the Islands, and took every precaution in his power, to bring them off. That he made early provision at Elizabeth-town for refreshing the troops of his division, when they returned to Jersey; And that upon the matures, consideration of the evidence in possession of this court, General Sullivan's conduct, in planning and executing the expedition, was such in the opinion of this court, that he deserves the approbation of his country, and not its censure. The Court therefore are unanimously of opinion that he ought to stand honorably acquitted of any unsoldierlike conduct, in the expedition to Staten-Island.[60]

AFTER ORDERS

The regiments commanded by Colonels Greene, Angel, Durkee and Chandler, are to form one brigade under the command of Brigadier Genl. Varnum. The regiments commanded by Col. Prentice, Bradley and Swift are to form one brigade, under the command of Brigadier Genl. Huntington. These two Brigades form a division, to be commanded by Brigadier General McDougall.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, at Peter Wentz's, Worcester-Township, October 17, 1777.

Parole Bennington. Countersigns, Albany, Stanwix.

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60. The original proceedings of this court were forwarded to Congress by Washington and are filed with his letter of October 13 in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*.

The troops are to be under arms at eleven o'clock this forenoon, except those men who are employed in making cartridges; and the General expects that the commanding officer of each regiment daily keeps a number of the best hands diligently working at that business, 'till further orders. The troops axe to parade with one days provisions ready cooked.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Wentz's, Worcester Township, October 18, 1777.

Parole Reading. Countersigns Rochester, Ridgefield.

The General has his happiness completed relative to the successes of our northern Army. On the 14th. instant, General Burgoyne, and his whole Army, surrendered themselves prisoners of war. Let every face brighten, and every heart expand with grateful Joy and praise to the supreme disposer of all events, who has granted us this signal success. The Chaplains of the army are to prepare short discourses, suited to the joyful occasion to deliver to their several corps and brigades at 5 O'clock this afternoon—immediately after which, *Thirteen* pieces of cannon are to be discharged at the park of artillery, to be followed by a *feu-de-joy* with blank cartridges, or powder, by every brigade and corps of the army, beginning on the right of the front line, and running on to the left of it, and then instantly beginning on the left of the 2nd. line, and running to the right of it where it is to end. The Major General of the day will superintend and regulate the *feu-de-joy* .

The officers commanding brigades and corps are to draw out their men, (excepting those on duty) every day, when the weather permits, to practice the most necessary manoeuvres, particularly to advance in line from thence, to form columns, to go thro' passes and openings in fences, and to reduce them again;

to retire in line and column, and form again; in a word, to perform all those movements, which in action, a woody and inclosed country shall make necessary.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at Wentz's, Worcester Township, October 19, 1777.

Parole Berwick. Countersigns Chester, Dover.

The Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades are to appoint General Courts Martial, in their respective brigades, for the trial of all non-commissioned officers and privates, now in the provost, belonging to their respective brigades. These courts are to sit to morrow morning, at 9 o'clock, and daily afterwards, 'till all the prisoners are tried. Each court will appoint a Judge Advocate.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 7th. and 10th. instant, whereof Col. Brodhead was president.

Capt. Crump[91] of the 1st. Virginia regiment charged with “Cowardice,” is found guilty, and sentenced to be cashiered, and his name, place of abode, and his punishment, published in the Newspapers of the particular state he came from, or in which he usually resides. After which, it shall be deemed scandalous, for any officer to associate with him.

Capt. John Stoner of the 10th. Pennsylv: regiment, charged with “Leaving the regiment in a cowardly manner, in the action at Chad's ford, on the Brandywine, on the 11th of September last”; found guilty of leaving the regiment improperly the 11th. of Septr. last when an action was expected, but not in a cowardly manner, and sentenced to be reprimanded by the

91. Goodrich Crump.

Brigadier General of the brigade, the 10th. Pennsylv: regiment is in, in the presence of the officers of the brigade.

The Commander in Chief likewise approves the following sentences of the same Court Martial, held the 11th and 12th. instant, viz.

Lieut. William Courts of the 2nd. Maryland regiment, charged with "Cowardice at the Battle of Brandywine, on the 11th. of September last; also with giving Major Adams[92] of the 7th. Maryland regiment impertinent, and abusive language when he applied to him, to know the reason of his conduct on that day." Acquitted of the charges against him.

Lieut. Simon Morgan of the 13th. Virginia regiment charged with "Cowardice on the 4th. instant." Acquitted with honor by the unanimous opinion of the court.

Capt. Henry Shade of the 10th. Pennsylv. regiment charged with "Absenting himself from the regiment without leave for near two months"; found guilty and sentenced to be *cashiered* .

Lieut. Rains[93] of the 15th. Virginia regt. charged with "Sending a soldier (William Blyford) to bring water in a tin Cartridge box," found, by the unanimous opinion of the court, not guilty of the charge.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentence of a General Court Martial, of the brigade of horse, held the 17th. instant, of which Col. Moylan was president viz.

Lieut. Col. Byrd,[94] charged with "Countermanding the orders, Col. Bland gave to two soldiers, to fall into their ranks, repeatedly on parade, and for disobeying the orders of Col Bland, when directed to order the said men into their ranks, on the night, the Cavalry passed the Schuylkill." Col Byrd admitted the justness of the charge. Whereupon the Court considered, whether Col. Bland had, or had not, a right, to command

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92. Maj. Peter Adams. He was lieutenant colonel commandant of the First Maryland Regiment in August, 1779; transferred to the Third Maryland Regiment in January, 1781; served to April, 1783.

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93. Lieut. Giles Raines. He resigned in December, 1777.

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94. Lieut. Col. Francis Otway Byrd, of the Third Continental Dragoons. He resigned in July, 1778.

Lieut. Col. Byrd, while a superior officer was present, and determined that he had not.

The regimental surgeons are to make returns of the sick in camp, who are proper subjects for the hospital, to Dr. Cochran, at the Qr. Mr. General's quarters, to morrow morning at 8 o'clock precisely.

AFTER ORDERS

The whole army is to be ready to march to morrow morning, at 4 o'clock, with what tents, necessary baggage &c., are at the present encampment. If any of the troops have not already drawn provisions for to morrow, it is now to be drawn and cooked without loss of time. The Commissaries of divisions are instantly to send down provisions; for their respective detachments which marched this morning, with orders to reach the detachments before they stop.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 20, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The troops are to draw and cook one day's provision this afternoon, and be ready to march to morrow morning, at 6 o'clock precisely; but if it should rain, then they are not to strike their tents 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 21, 1777.

Parole Chatham. Countersign Camden, Coventry.

A General Court Martial is to set to morrow morning at 9. o'clock at the Quarter Master General's quarters for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them.

Col. Grayson[9] is appointed president of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 22, 1777.

Parole Lebanon. Countersigns Windsor, Warwick.

Such of the troops as have not already drawn provisions, for to day and to morrow, are to do it immediately, and cook the whole; and all be ready to march on the shortest notice.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 23, 1777.

Parole Boston. Countersigns Cambridge, Roxbury.

The Waggon Master General is immediately to make a return of the waggons with the army, therein shewing, particularly, the uses to which they are applied, and the divisions and brigades, in which they are employed.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 24, 1777.

Parole Princeton. Countersigns Trenton, Brunswick.

Many abuses having been committed in impressing horses for the army, The Commander in Chief positively orders, that henceforward, no horse be impressed by any member of the army, without an order therefor from the Q Mr General, or one of his deputies or assistants, or a special order from the Commander in Chief.

The Brigade Quarter Masters are to make returns, to morrow afternoon, at five o'clock, of all the riding and bat-horses used in their respective brigades, and the persons and their ranks, and in whose service they are used.

A General Court Martial, of which Genl. Sullivan is appointed president, is to sit to morrow morning, at nine o'clock,

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9. Col. William Grayson, of an Additional Continental regiment.

at the president's quarters, for the trial of Brigadier General Wayne, upon this charge against him; “That he had timely notice of the enemy's intention, to attack the troops under his command on the night of the 20th. Ult.[19] and notwithstanding that intelligence, neglected making a disposition

until it was too late, either to annoy the enemy, or make a retreat without the utmost danger and confusion." Brigadiers General Muhlenberg, Weedon, Conway and Huntington. Colonels Stevens,[20] Dayton, McClenahan,[21] Stewart[22] and Bradley[23] and Lt. Cols. Davies,[24] De Hart[25] and Thackston,[26] are appointed members.

A Return is to be made of swords wanting in the brigade of horse; as deficiencies may now be supplied.

Altho' the enterprize under General McDougall proved fruitless, by reason that the enemy had abandoned the post intended to have been attacked, yet the Commander in Chief deems his thanks due to the officers and men, detached for that service, who two nights successively, crossed and recrossed the Schuylkill, and to those also, under Generals Sullivan and Greene, who were designed to facilitate General McDougall's operation, for the fortitude and chearfulness with which they went thro' the night marches and fatigues, which occurred in the expedition.

AFTER ORDERS

The General Court Martial for the trial of Brigadier Genl. Wayne is called at his own request.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 25, 1777.

Parole Braintree. Countersigns Concord, Danvers.

The intention of a certificate upon pay abstracts under the hands of the Brigadiers, was, that the truth of them

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19. At Paoli, Pa.

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20. Col. Edward Stevens, of the Tenth Virginia Regiment.

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21. Col. Alexander McClanachan, of the Seventh Virginia Regiment.

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22. Col. Walter Stewart, of a Pennsylvania State regiment.

23.Col. Philip Burr Bradley, of the Fifth Connecticut Regiment.

24. Lieut. Col. William Davies, of the Fifth Virginia Regiment.

25. Lieut. Col. William De Hart, of the Second New Jersey Regiment.

26. Lieut. Col. James Thrackston, of the Fourth North Carolina Regiment.

should be made apparent, upon a comparison with the weekly returns, and unless the Brigadiers make such comparison, the signing their names is but an empty form. The Commander in Chief therefore requires, that henceforward the Brigadiers, or officers commanding brigades that are without brigadiers, carefully compare the pay-abstracts, with the weekly returns, before they make a certificate concerning them.

The Commander in Chief orders that a weekly return be made, of each brigade to morrow morning at ten o'clock without fail. The returns to be made with all possible exactness, and of those men returned on Command, their respective commands and the number on each, are to be pointed out. The General will look to the Brigadiers, or officers commanding brigades, for the punctual compliance with this order.

The Commander in Chief approves, the following sentences of a General Court Martial, held the 14th. instant, whereof Colonel Brodhead was president, and orders them to be put in execution immediately.

Lieut. Nathaniel Ferris of Col. Swift's regiment, charged with “Being drunk, and incapable of doing his duty, when the army engaged with the enemy on the 4th. instant,” was found guilty and sentenced to be cashiered.

Lieut. Joseph Fish of Capt. Lee's company, in Colo. Durkee's regiment, charged with “Leaving the regiment and platoon, he belonged to, while on the march towards the enemy, on the night of the 3rd. instant, and also with being much disguised with liquor,” was acquitted of the first charge, but found guilty of being much disguised with liquor, and sentenced therefore, to be reprimanded, by the Brigadier General, in the presence of the officers of the brigade.

The General again congratulates

the troops on the success of our arms. On Wednesday last a body of about 1200 Hessians, under the command of Count Donop, made an attack on Fort Mercer at Red Bank, and after an action of

40 minutes were repulsed with great loss. Count Donop himself is wounded and taken prisoner, together with his Brigade Major, and about 100 other officers and soldiers, and about 100 were left dead on the field, and as they carried of a great many of their wounded, their whole loss is probably at least 400: Our loss was trifling, the killed and wounded amounting only to about 32.

The next morning a number of the enemy's ships came up, and attacked Fort Mifflin and the Gallies, and after a severe cannonade of several hours, the ships thought proper to retire, but in retiring a 64 Gun-ship and a frigate ran aground and were burnt.

AFTER ORDERS

The Court of enquiry, of which Genl. Greene is president, is to sit to morrow morning at nine o'clock at the president's quarters, to enquire into the conduct of Major General Stephen, on the march from the Clove to Schuylkill falls, in the action of the 11th. of September last on the Brandywine, and more especially in the action of the 4th. instant at and about Germantown, on which occasions he is charged with "Acting unlike an officer." Also into the charge against him for "Drunkenness, or drinking so much, as to act frequently in a manner, unworthy the character of an officer."

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain, October 26, 1777.

Parole Worcester. Countersigns Rutland, Salem.

The Court of enquiry of which General Greene was president, relative to the complaint against General Maxwell, report their opinion as follows—"The Court of enquiry having fully inquired into the complaints, exhibited by Lieut. Col. Heth,[51] against Brigadier General Maxwell, while commanding the light-corps, are clearly of opinion, that they are without foundation; saving that it appears, he was once during said time disguised with liquor in such a manner, as to disqualify him in some measure, but not fully, from doing his duty; and that once or twice besides his spirits were a little elevated by spiritous liquor. The Court submit to His Excellency's better judgment, whether Genl. Maxwell from these instances of deviation ought to be subjected to a trial by court martial."

The Commander in Chief directs that the General Court Martial of which Genl. Sullivan is president, as soon as the trial before them is finished, proceed to the trial of Brigadier General Maxwell, upon the complaints referred to in the foregoing report.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court martial, of which Col Brodhead was president, held the 17th, 18th and 19th. instant, and orders that they be put in execution forthwith—viz.

Lieut. Col. John Markham, of the 8th. Virginia regiment, charged with "Having left the regiment in time of action, on the 4th. instant, and also, on the retreat of the same day"; and also charged with "Delay when ordered to support the advanced guard," was, by the unanimous opinion of the court, found guilty of the charges exhibited against [him], and sentenced to be cashiered.

Capt. McCormick[52] of the 13th. Virginia regiment charged with "Laying down in time of action and behaving in

51. Lieut. Col. William Heth, of the Third Virginia Regiment. He was promoted to colonel in April, 1778; taken prisoner at Charleston in May, 1780; prisoner on parole to end of the war.

52. Capt. George McCormick, of the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment. He was retired in September, 1778.

a cowardly, unofficer like manner," was acquitted with honor.

Lieut. Crain[53] of the 15th. Virginia regt. charged with "Disobedience of orders, also with breaking his arrest," acquitted by the unanimous opinion of the court.

Lieut. Thomas Moore of Capt. Harrison's[54] company in the 13th. Virginia regiment charged with "Encouraging the men to breed a mutiny, and otherwise behaving unbecoming the character of a Gentleman or officer," was acquitted.

Thomas Roach a matross in Capt. Serjeants[55] company of artillery in Col Crane's regt. of artillery charged with "Desertion, and attempting to go to the enemy." The Court are unanimously of opinion the prisoner is guilty of the charge against him, and do unanimously sentence him to suffer *death* . This sentence is to be executed to morrow at twelve o'clock, near the artillery park, 60 men with officers, from each brigade, are to attend the execution.

Capt. Thomas Patterson of Col. Dayton's regiment, is appointed Brigade Major (pro tempore) for Genl. Maxwell's brigade, and is to be obeyed as such.

AFTER ORDERS

The execution of Thomas Roach is respited for three days.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 28, 1777.

Parole Middleton. Countersigns Newbury, Oxford.

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53. Lieut. James Crain, of the Fifteenth Virginia Regiment. He was captain of the Eleventh Virginia Regiment in October, 1780; transferred to the Fourth Virginia Regiment in February, 1781; served to close of the war.

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54. Capt. Benjamin Harrison, He was captain of the Thirteenth Virginia and Ninth Virginia Regiments in September, 1778; retired in February, 1781, with the rank of major.

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55. Capt. Winthrop Sargent, of the Third Continental Artillery. He was aide to Maj. Gen. Robert Howe in June, 1780; served to close of war.

The Honorable Congress have been pleased to promote Brigadiers General Robert Howe, and Alexander McDougall, to the rank of Majors General in the service of the United States.

The ranks of the Captains and Subalterns in Colonel Malcom's regiment are to be established, as settled the 19th instant by Cols. Ogden and Spencer, and Lieut. Col. Brearly.

Capt. McGowen[82] is appointed to do the duty of Brigade Major, in the brigade late De Haas's, and is to be respected as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 29, 1777.

Parole Norfolk. Countersigns Norwich, Norton.

The seamen returned in General Muhlenberg's, Weedon's, Woodford's, Scotts, 2nd Maryland and McDougall's brigades, are to have by them, three day's provisions ready cooked, and hold themselves ready to march at the shortest notice.

AFTER ORDERS

The ammunition of each brigade is to be inspected without the least delay, and reports of the state of it made immediately.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 30, 1777.

Parole Newbern. Countersigns Williamsburg, Annapolis. The Brigadiers, and Officers commanding brigades, are without loss of time, to cause the Arms, and Ammunition of their men to be put in the best order. If due care be taken, cartridges somewhat damp may be dried and fitted for use.

The seamen in the six brigades, named in

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82. Capt. John McGowan, of the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment. He was wounded at Germantown, Pa.; was transferred to the Invalid Regiment in February, 1781; served to end of the war.

yesterday's orders, are to parade this forenoon, at ten o'clock, in front of Genl. Varnum's brigade, with every thing belonging to them, and provisions ready to march.

The execution of Thomas Roach is respited 'till to morrow.

Such arms as are loaded, and cannot be drawn, are to be discharged, under direction of the officers, this afternoon, at four o'clock. But no pains are to be spared to draw all such as will possibly admit of it.

Divers horses and cattle being brought off by the detachment under Genl. McDougall, which lately crossed the Schuylkill; the persons who had or have them in possession are to report them immediately to the Qr. Mr. General.

Returns of the sick, to go to the General Hospital, are to be made to morrow morning, to the Surgeon General at Col. Biddle's quarters. A sufficient number of camp kettles are to sent with the sick. Those persons whose cases are very bad, are to be sent immediately to the Quaker's Meeting house, at the 20 mile stone, on the North Wales road; where the Surgeons of the hospital will receive them. The arms of the sick are to be left under the care of the Regimental Quarter Masters, who are

to deliver them to the Commissary of Military Stores. A few orderly men are to go with the sick to the Quaker Meeting house, proportioned to the number of the sick.

Whenever a regiment marches, the surgeon belonging to it, is to march with it, to take care of the wounded and such as fall sick.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentence of a General Court Martial, held the 13th. instant,

whereof Col. Brodhead was president.

Col. Alexander Martin of the 2nd. North Carolina Battalion, arrested for “Cowardice,” was acquitted of the charge. He is therefore discharged from his arrest.

AFTER ORDERS

The General Court Martial of which General Sullivan is president, will proceed to morrow, to the trial of Genl. Maxwell. All witnesses are to attend at Genl. Sullivan's quarters.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Whitpain Township, October 31, 1777.

Parole Brookfield. Countersigns Blandford, Blenheim. Richard Platt and Ronald Stephen McDougall Esqrs. are appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major General McDougall, and are to be respected as such.

The Deputy Quarter Masters General are to make a return to the Qr. Mr. General's office, of all equipage, and stores, waggons &c. in their respective divisions; the returns to be made to morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, of the Brigade of horse held the 24th. instant, of which Col. Bland was president, vizt.

Col. Moylan charged with “Disobedience of the orders of Genl. Pulaski, a cowardly and ungentlemanlike action in striking Mr. Zielinski,[99] a Gentleman, and officer in the polish service when disarmed; and putting him under guard; and giving irritating language to Genl. Pulaski.” The

Court were of opinion that Col Moylan was not guilty, and therefore acquitted him of the charges exhibited against him.

Col. Moylan is discharged from arrest.

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99. Capt. John de Zielinski, later of Pulaski's legion.

Some doubts having arisen with regard to the order of promotions, The Commander in Chief thinks it expedient again to declare, that promotions shall be regimental, as high as the rank of Captains inclusively. All from that rank in the line of the state. But subject nevertheless to such exceptions, as merit or unworthiness shall render just and proper, agreeably to the General Orders, formerly issued at Middlebrook, on this head.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Whitpain Township, November 1, 1777.

Parole Newtown. Countersigns, Reading, Stamford.

The commissaries are directed to take all the liquors in the hands of the sutlers, at a reasonable price if they can agree, and if they cannot, the sutlers are to carry them away: And no sutler shall be allowed to continue in the camp after the 5th. instant.

A General Court-Martial of which General Sullivan was president, was held the 25th, 26th, 27th and 30th of October last, for the trial of Brigadier General Wayne on the following charge, viz, “That he had timely notice of the enemy's intention, to attack the troops under his command, and on the night of the 20th. of Septr. last, and notwithstanding that intelligence, neglected making a disposition, until it was too late either to annoy the enemy, or make retreat, without the utmost danger and confusion.” Upon which the Court pronounced their sentence as follows:

“The Court having fully considered the charge against Brigadier Genl. Wayne, and the evidence produced to them, are unanimously of opinion that Genl. Wayne is not guilty of the charge exhibited against him, but that he, on the night

of the 20th. Ultimo (that is of Septr. last) did every thing that could be expected from an active, brave, and vigilant officer, under the orders he then had. The Court do acquit him with the highest honor.”

The Commander in Chief approves the sentence.

Henceforward, whenever any Non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, shall be confined, for crimes not triable by Regimental Courts Martial; the Brigadiers or officers commanding brigades, are, without delay, to order Brigade Courts Martial to try them; and the sentences of such courts they are to approve or disapprove, and cause to be executed, as to them shall appear just; except only where the prisoners are sentenced to suffer death.

As an encouragement to all persons to take up and bring to Head-Quarters, any deserters from the Continental Army, the Commander in Chief hereby promises a reward of *Ten Dollars* for each deserter so taken and brought in, besides One Shilling a mile for every mile they travel; to be computed from the place where he is taken, to camp; This bounty, and mileage, to be paid to all non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall bring in deserters, as well as to the inhabitants of the states.

Many reasons have concurred, to induce the Commander in Chief, to extend *mercy* to Thomas Roach, now under sentence of death, for desertion; and to grant him his pardon; which is hereby declared. He is to return to his corps immediately. The Commander in Chief expecting, that by his future good behaviour, he will attone for his past crimes, and shew himself worthy of this act of clemency.

AFTER ORDERS

The army is to march to morrow morning at ten o'clock, with all the baggage, the right wing down the Shippack road, in this order from the left; Genl. Wayne's

division, Genl. Sullivan's, Lord Stirlings, followed by the park of Artillery, and waggons of that wing, in the order of the divisions. The left wing down the road on which General Greene is encamped, in this order, General McDougall's division, General Greene's, General Stephen's, followed by the waggons in the order of the divisions; the left wing to march by the right. The North Carolina brigade to march with General McDougall's division, and to be considered as a part of it, during the absence of General Varnum's brigade. The horse are to be divided, half marching, at the head of each column. The leading divisions will beat a march when they move, to be followed by the other divisions in their order. General Irvine's brigade to follow file right wing, and Genl. Smallwood's division the left wing.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Marsh, November 2, 1777.

Parole Morristown. Countersigns Brunswick, Amboy.

Each division is to open a road into the best and nearest main road, leading into the country, by which the waggons and troops may move with the greatest ease and dispatch. The Commander in Chief relies upon the officers commanding divisions to see this necessary work performed as soon as possible. The waggons are to be regularly drawn up, in the best order, for moving, and every night the horses are to be had to the waggons, and gear'd every morning at day light.

The Division and Brigade Quarter Masters are to provide straw for the troops, taking none that is not threshed, But the men will collect what they can find for the same use.

The General Court Martial of which General Sullivan is president, is to sit to morrow morning, at nine o'clock, at the president's

quarters, for the trial of Major General Stephen, upon the charges exhibited against him, the delay that may arise from the appointment of new members, and the impracticability of changing the General Officers, without introducing those who have already been on the court of enquiry, relative to the same charges, renders it necessary that this trial should be before the same court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White-Marsh, November 3, 1777.

Parole Cumberland. Countersigns Lancaster, York.

The officers and men are by no means to be absent from camp; provisions for to day and to morrow are to be drawn and cooked immediately, and every thing held in readiness for marching at the shortest notice.

The Brigadiers and Officers commanding brigades are, without loss of time, to provide themselves each with a guide well acquainted with the neighbouring country.

The Waggons are to be in the rear of their respective divisions, and kept ready to move as directed in yesterday's orders.

The Quarter-Masters are to cause necessaries, to be made for the convenience of each brigade.

The Colonel of each regiment of horse, is to make a return, of the number and condition of his horses, and furniture, and of the arms and accoutrements of his men; the returns to be delivered in to morrow forenoon without fail.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 4, 1777.

Parole Newark. Countersigns Woodbridge, Monmouth.

A General Court Martial, of which Genl. Sullivan was president, was held the 30th. of October last, and the two

following days for the tryal of Brigadier Genl Maxwell on the following charges, “That he was once, during the time he commanded the light troops, disguised with liquor in such a manner as to disqualify him in some measure, but not fully, from doing his duty; and that once or twice besides, his spirits were a little elevated with liquor” Upon which the Court pronounced sentence as follows:

“The Court having considered the charges, and evidences, are unanimously of opinion, that Brigadier General Maxwell, while he commanded the light troops, was not at any time disguised with liquor, so as to disqualify him in any measure from doing his duty. They do therefore acquit him of the charge against him.”

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 5, 1777.

Parole Pampet. Countersigns Woodstock, York.

Agreeably to former orders, all reports of the guards and scouting parties, are to be made by the officers commanding them, to the Major General of the day, who is to report to the Commander in Chief.

Every regiment is to go on making cartridges, every day, when the weather will admit of it. The Commissary of military stores is to make a return, of the cartridges returned to him, and of the regiment's by which they were made up.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White Marsh, November 6, 1777.

Parole Warsaw. Countersigns Berlin, Dresden.

The independent Company commanded by Capt. Joshua Williams is to be annexed to, and do duty with the 4th. Pennsylvania regiment, 'till further orders.

All prisoners (not being Continental soldiers) and suspected persons are to be carried to the Major General of the day, to

be examined and dealt with, as he shall see fit.

The Colonels or officers commanding regiments are to appoint one officer from each regiment, to go with four men to Bethlehem, to get such of their cloathing as is absolutely necessary, and bring the same in waggons to camp. The waggon Master General will make the necessary provision of waggons for that end.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White Marsh, November 7, 1777.

Parole Exeter. Countersigns Kingston, Dover.

The independent Company commanded by Captn. Weaver[25] is to be annexed to, and do duty with the 10th. Pennsylvania regiment 'till further orders.

Some dispute having arisen relative to certain men, inlisted by Mr. Nelson,[26] now doing duty in the 7th. Pennsylvania regiment, A Court of inquiry is to examine into the matter, and report their opinion, whether those men should remain as they are, or be transferred to the 9th. Pennsylv. Regt. for which regiment it is said they were inlisted. A field officer and captain from Maxwell's brigade, and one field officer from Col. Humpton's brigade are to compose this court, which is to sit to-morrow morning at nine o'clock at Col. Brearley's[27] quarters; who is to be one of the members.

It is expected by the Commander in Chief, that all intelligence from the enemy's lines, which may come to the knowledge of any officer, and bears the marks of authenticity, will be immediately communicated to him, or the Major General of the day, who will, if the cause requires it, give immediate information thereof to him.

Officers commanding at out-posts, are to receive and detain, all passes which are given merely for the purpose of passing

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25. Capt. Jacob Weaver.

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26. William(?) Nelson, formerly a lieutenant in the Pennsylvania battalion of the Flying Camp.

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27. Lieut. Col. David Brearley, of the First New Jersey Regiment. He resigned in August, 1779.

them, lest they should afterwards be put to an improper use.

Since the General left Germantown in the middle of September last he has been without his baggage, and on that account is unable to receive company in the manner he could wish; he nevertheless desires, the Generals, Field Officers, and Brigade Major of the day, to dine with him in future, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 8, 1777.

Parole Hungary. Countersigns Prussia, Poland.

The service requiring that the men be ready to march on the shortest notice, the officers commanding brigades and corps are to be particularly careful to keep their men constantly supplied with two days' provisions on hand.

To make the more dispatch in the trial of Officers under arrest, Brigade General Courts Martial are to be held without delay for the trial of all such officers as shall apply to the Brigadiers, or officers commanding brigades for trial before these courts.

The Commander in Chief approved of the sentence of the General Court Martial, relative to Brigadier Genl. Maxwell, published in General Orders of the 4th. instant, but thro' mistake that approbation was not inserted.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 9, 1777.

Parole Providence. Countersigns Newport, Plymouth.

Nicholas Van Cortlandt Esqr. is appointed an Aid-de-Camp, to Major General Sullivan, and is to be respected as such.

Peter Bryan Bruin Esqr. is appointed a Volunteer Aid-de-Camp to Major General Sullivan, and is to be respected as such.

All the empty waggons, or which can be emptied without great inconvenience, are to be got ready in the several brigades, and assemble this day, at such place and hour, as the Forage Mr. General shall direct; and be disposed of by him.

The Brigadiers, and officers commanding brigades, are with as much dispatch, as possible, to have their brigades paraded, and from their own observation, take an account of the articles, of cloathing, indispensibly necessary for the men.

Many of the men who mount guard daily, make a very un-soldierlike appearance. The Adjutants and Brigade Majors will be respectively answerable, that henceforward they bring no man to the parade, whose appearance is not as decent as his circumstances will permit; having his beard shaved, hair combed, face washed and cloaths put on in the best manner in his power.

Captain Craig of Col. Moylan's regt., with his party of horse, has taken seven British dragoons, and seven soldiers, with their horses, arms, and accoutrements. The General desires Capt. Craig, Capt. Lee, and the other officers who have distinguished themselves, will accept his cordial thanks, for the enterprise, spirit and bravery they have exhibited in harassing, and making captives of the enemy.

All the General Officers in camp are to assemble, to morrow, at ten o'clock, in the forenoon, at General Greene's quarters, to settle the rations. The General Officers will attend this, in preference to any other duty, and make report as soon as they have finished it.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 11, 1777.

Parole Hudson. Countersigns Delaware, Schuylkill.

The Honorable Continental Congress have passed the following resolves, which have been transmitted hither to be made public in the army. vizt:

In Congress, November 4th, 1777.

Resolved—That His Excellency Governor Caswell of North Carolina be requested to erect a monument of the value of five hundred dollars, at the expence of these United States, in honor of the memory of Brigadier General Francis Nash, who fell in the battle of Germantown, on the 4th. day of October 1777, bravely contending for the Independence of his country.

Resolved—That the thanks of Congress, in their own name, and in behalf of the inhabitants of The Thirteen United States, be presented to Major General Gates, commander in Chief, in the northern department, and to Major Generals Lincoln and Arnold, and the rest of the officers, and troops under his command, for their brave, and successful efforts, in support of the Independence of their country; whereby an army of the enemy of ten thousand men, has been totally defeated; one large detachment of it strongly posted and entrenched having been conquered at Bennington, another repulsed with loss and disgrace from Fort Schuyler, and the main army of six thousand men, under Lieut. General Burgoyne, after being beaten in different actions, and driven from a formidable post, and strong entrenchments, reduced to the necessity of surrendering themselves, upon terms honorable and advantageous to these States, on the 17th. day of October last, to Major

General Gates; And that a medal of gold be struck, under the direction of the Board of war, in commemoration of this great event, and in the name

of these United States presented by the president to Major General Gates.

Resolved—That Congress have a high sense of the merit of Colo. Greene, and the officers and men under his command, in the late gallant defence of the Fort at Red bank, on Delaware river; and that an elegant sword be provided by the Board of war, and presented to Col. Greene.

Resolved—That Congress have a high sense of the merit of Lieut. Col. Smith, and the officers and men under his command, in their late gallant defence of fort Mifflin, on the river Delaware; and that an elegant sword be provided by the Board of war, and presented to Lt. Col. Smith.

Resolved—That Congress have a high sense of the merit of Commodore Hazlewood, the Commander of the naval force in the river Delaware; in the service of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and of the officers and men under his command, in their late gallant defence of their country, against the British Fleet, whereby two of their Men of war were destroyed, and four others compelled to retire; and that an elegant sword be provided by the Marine Committee, and presented to Commodore Hazlewood.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 12, 1777.

Parole Kensington. Countersigns Lancaster, Marshfield.

The Honorable Continental Congress have been pleased to pass the following Resolve, concerning the opinion of the Court of enquiry, published in General Orders, the 16th. Ult. relative to General Sullivan.

In Congress—October 20th, 1777.

Resolved—That the result of the Court of enquiry into the expedition of Staten Island, so honorable to the character of General Sullivan is highly pleasing to Congress, and that the opinion of the said court

be published in justification of the injured character of that officer.

It appears that some regiments are destitute of necessary cloathing, altho', they have been supplied with full suits allowed by Congress. This must have arisen, at least in part, from the inattention of the officers, in not taking lists of their men's necessaries, examining them weekly, agreeable to General Orders, and calling delinquents to a severe account for what was missing. This, under our circumstances, is a neglect of the worst kind, and most fatal tendency, and demands a speedy and effectual remedy. And altho' the articles delivered the men, beyond the stated allowance, be charged to them, yet, in our situation this does not lessen the evil complained of. The Commander in Chief therefore most seriously, and positively requires, the officers commanding companies, after taking exact lists of their men's necessaries, to examine them critically, once a week, agreeably to the General Orders formerly issued; and if any noncommissioned officer, or soldier, shall sell, willfully destroy, or carelessly lose, any of his necessaries, he is to be severely punished at the discretion of a Court Martial. This is a matter of so very important a nature, the Commander in Chief expects that the officers will pay the most exact attention to it; and that the General Officers, and others commanding brigades will see this order carefully and regularly complied with. It appears also, that many men who go into the hospitals well clad, are in a manner naked when they get well, and cannot return to their regiments 'till new-cloathed. To prevent a continuance of this evil and that the guilty may be known and punished no men henceforward are to be sent to the hospitals, without lists of the companies and regiments they belong to, and of every article of their

cloathing; those lists to be signed by the Captains, or officers commanding those Companies, and transmitted to the surgeons of the hospitals to which the sick are sent: And if any men are sent to the hospitals without such lists, the officers sending them shall be punished for their neglect at the discretion of a General Court Martial; And for this end the surgeons of the hospitals are, as soon as possible to send a report of such officers to the Adjutant General. And that the arms and accoutrements of such sick may not be lost, or damaged, they are agreeably to the General Orders lately issued, to be delivered to the regimental Quarter Masters, and by them without delay to the Commissary of military stores, and never carried with the sick to the hospitals.

AFTER ORDERS

The waggons in each brigade which are empty, or can conveniently be emptied, are to parade this evening at such place as the Forage Master General shall direct.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 14, 1777.

Parole Bedford. Countersigns Cambridge, Dartmouth.

The Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades who have not completed their cloathing returns, according to the General Orders of the 9th. instant, are to do it without the smallest delay; And all the Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades are to meet together to morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at General Huntington's quarters, to compare the wants of their brigades, and agree on the manner in which the cloathing shall be distributed.

The wants of Col. Morgan's Rifle Corps, and others not included in the Brigade Returns, are to be in like manner considered. Mr. Kemper[96] the Deputy Clothier General, is to attend the meeting and take the directions of the Board for the present and future distribution. A considerable quantity of cloathing being on hand, it is of the highest importance that this order be executed with the greatest punctuality.

The Court of Enquiry held the 11th. instant, whereof Col. Bradley,[97] was president, relative to the complaint of Joseph Chambers, late Commissary to Genl. Greene's division, against Col. Josiah Parker, for “Ordering a Serjeant and file of men to whip said Chambers,” have made the following report, vizt: “As Colo. Parker owns the fact, the Court after hearing the evidences produced by him, in his defence, are unanimously of opinion, that however negligent the Commissary might have been, in the discharge of the duty of his department, yet Col. Parker was by no means warranted to inflict private punishment upon him; that the punishment was illegal, and his conduct highly reprehensible, as being subversive of good order and regularity.”

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 15, 1777.

Parole Belfast. Countersigns Cork, Dublin.

Henceforward, and until further orders, the sick are to be sent to Buckingham Meeting house, with a suitable number of orderly men to attend them.

The troops are to be immediately supplied with two days' provisions (exclusive of this day) one of which, at least, is to be cooked. No officer, or soldier, is to be absent from camp, but ready for duty at a minute's warning.

96. Daniel Kemper.

97. Col. Philip Burr Bradley, of the Fifth Connecticut Regiment.

No scouting party, under any pretence whatsoever (unless sent for that purpose) is to seize horses, cattle, or other property belonging to the inhabitants; Under the plea of taking these things within the enemy's lines, great and enormous abuses are committed. An infringement therefore, or disobedience of this order, in either officer or soldier, will be punished with the utmost rigour.

Complaint has been made, of the irregularity (in point of time) with which the horse mount guard: The Commander in Chief expects, they will parade with more punctuality in future: He also desires, that the Colonels of those regiments which have more horses than men, would immediately furnish (by way of loan) the others that are in want of horses, that as many men as possible, may be mounted, and the public not unnecessarily burden'd.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 16, 1777.

Parole Westmoreland. Countersigns Williamsburg, Wilmington.

As large quantities of materials for cartridges have been issued, and a few cartridges returned to the Commissary of military stores; returns are to be made to morrow afternoon by each brigade of the number of cartridges in their possession. These returns are to shew the number in each regiment, how many are in the hands of the soldiers, and where the residue are deposited.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 17, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

Some officers yet remaining untried, and many prisoners in the provost, Brigade Courts martial are to be held for trying them without delay.

No pass is to be given to any one to go into Philadelphia, but by the Major General of the day, who will not grant

them without due examination, and upon the most reasonable and necessary occasions.

At the request of Colo. Price, a Court of enquiry into his conduct, on sundry occasions, is to set to morrow forenoon at ten o'clock, at the tavern next to Col. Biddle's quarters. All persons who have any objections or complaints to make against him, or know any thing amiss in his past conduct, are desired to appear and declare the same before said court. Colonels Hartley and Humpton, and Lt. Col. Craig are appointed members of this court.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 18, 1777.

Parole Westminster. Countersigns Winchester, Woodbridge.

The Government of the State of Pennsylvania, having appointed Commissioners in each county thereof, to collect blankets and cloathing for the army. All officers sent round in the State for that purpose are, by their commanding officers, to be called in as soon as possible, with what cloathing they have.

Richard Claiborne Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major to General Weedon's brigade, and is to be obeyed as such.

AFTER ORDERS

The whole army is immediately to draw provisions, for to morrow and next day, and cook the provisions of one of those days, and get ready to march at the shortest notice.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 19, 1777.

Parole Holland. Countersigns Hanover, Hamburg.

The Pennsylvania Field Officers are desired to bring in their old commissions and receive new ones.

All the General Officers are desired to assemble to morrow, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at Genl. Huntington's

quarters, in order to settle the rank of the field officers of Horse, who are to attend this Board of General Officers and exhibit their respective claims.

All arms unfit for service, which are deposited in the several regiments and corps, are to be sent immediately to the Commissary of military stores, who will send them to be repaired.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 20, 1777.

Parole Burlington. Countersigns Bristol, Trenton.

Lieut. John Marshall is, by the Judge Advocate General, appointed Deputy Judge Advocate in the Army of the United States, and is to be respected as such.

James Monroe Esqr. formerly appointed an additional Aide-de-Camp to Major General Lord Stirling, is now appointed Aide-de-Camp to his Lordship, in the room of Major Wilcock[27] who resigned on the 20th. of October last, and is to be respected as such.

Mr William Mountjoy is appointed Pay Master to the 3rd. Virginia regt. and is to be respected as such.

Before the sick are removed, application is always to be made to Doctor Cochran, or other director of the hospitals, for directions, unless the places to which they are to be sent have been previously pointed out in General orders. No more sick are to be sent to Buckingham meeting house.

A General Court Martial of which Lieut. Col. Barber was president, was held the 18th. instant, and proceeded to the trial of Ensign Clement Wood of the 4th. Jersey regiment, charged with “Absenting himself, for upwards of two months, from the regiment, without leave,” and also with “Disobedience of orders.” The Court determined that Ensign Wood is guilty of the whole charge exhibited against him; that he be dismissed the service; and

27. Maj. William Wilcox.

that he receive pay no longer than the time when he received orders from Lieut. Col. Brearly to join his regiment, which was on the 14th of October 1777. The Commander in Chief approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution immediately.

A General Court Martial of which Major General Sullivan was president, was held on the 3rd. instant, and on divers other days, to the 17th instant inclusively, for the trial of Major General Stephen, charged with: "1st Unofficerlike behaviour on the march from the Clove; 2nd Unofficerlike behaviour in the actions at Brandywine and Germantown; 3rd. Drunkenness." The Court declared their opinion and sentence as follows: "The Court having considered the charges against Major General Stephen, are of opinion, that he is guilty of unofficerlike behaviour, in the retreat from Germantown, owing to inattention, or want of judgement; and that he has been frequently intoxicated since in the service, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline; contrary to the 5th. article of the 18th Section of the articles of war. Therefore sentence him to be dismissed the service. The Court find him not guilty of any other crimes he was charged with, and therefore acquit him, as to all others, except the two before mentioned." The Commander in Chief approves the sentence.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 21, 1777.

Parole Brookfield. Countersigns Springfield, Pomfret.

Those pay-masters of regiments, who have drawn pay for any officers or men in Col. Morgan's Rifle Corps, are immediately to pay the same over to the Pay Master of that corps.

Complaint is made that by the carelessness of the butchers, the hides are greatly damaged in taking them off. The Issuing Commissaries are enjoined duly to inspect the butchers they employ, and see that they take off the hides with proper care.

No women coming out of Philadelphia are to be permitted to pass the first guards, without being told, they cannot return again; if upon being informed of this, they chuse to come out, they are to be allowed to pass the guards into the country. The General

of Horse will give this in charge to all the parties and patroles of horse.

The officers of the day report that Sentries from the picquets keep fires by them. This dangerous practice is absolutely forbidden, and all officers of guards are without fail to visit all their sentries between every relief, to see that they are alert, and keep no fires; and in cold and bad weather they are to relieve the sentries every hour. They are also to see that the sentries are well informed of their duty, and to instruct such as are deficient.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White Marsh, November 22, 1777.

Parole Chester. Countersigns Danbury, Easton.

The General Court Martial of the line, of which Colonel Grayson is president, is to sit to morrow morning at nine o'clock, at the house where General Huntington quartered, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. An orderly serjeant from each brigade is to attend the court. Lt. Col. Heth,[35] Lt. Col. Becker[36] and Major Taylor,[37] and a captain from each Continental brigade present, are to compose the members of the court.

All the General Officers present in camp are desired to meet at Lord Stirling's quarters, to morrow at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to settle the ranks of the Field Officers of horse, who are to attend this board and exhibit their respective claims.

The brigades commanded by Generals Paterson and Learned are to form one division under Major General the Baron De-Kalb.

AFTER ORDERS

The Commander in Chief offers a reward of *Ten dollars* , to any person who shall, by nine o'clock on Monday morning, produce the best substitute for shoes, made of raw hides. The Commissary of hides is to furnish the hides, and the Major General of the day is to judge of the essays, and assign the reward to the best artist.

Col. Martin[38] of North Carolina having resigned his Commission, the eldest officer of that corps now present is to command it.

The troops just arrived from the northward, are immediately to have their Cartouch Boxes filled with cartridges. The

35. Lieut. Col. William Heth, of the Third Virginia Regiment. He was promoted to colonel Apr. 30, 1778; taken prisoner at Charleston, S.C., in May, 1780, and remained prisoner on parole to the end of the war.

36. Lieut. Col. Richard Parker(?), of the Second Virginia Regiment.

37. Maj. John(?) Taylor, of the Second Canadian Regiment.

38. Col. Alexander Martin, of file Second North Carolina Regiment. He resigned Nov. 22, 1777.

whole army to have their ammunition in such readiness as to be completed to 40 rounds, at a moment's warning, where they have waggons to secure that quantity from the weather, and officers and men to be in camp, that they may be ready to act on the shortest notice.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 23, 1777.

Parole Greenwich. Countersigns Hartford, Leicester.

The Court of enquiry held the 18th. inst: of which Col. Humpton was president, to inquire into the conduct of Col. Price of the 2nd. Maryland regiment report as follows: “The Court after considering the evidences that appeared, are of opinion, that the reports circulating to the prejudice of Col. Thomas Price are without the least foundation.”

The General Court Martial of the line ordered to sit to day, is to sit to morrow morning at 9 o'clock, at Genl. Huntington's late quarters.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 24, 1777.

Parole Newbern. Countersigns Norfolk, Oxford.

Information having been given that divers of the late sutlers, and some of the inhabitants have opened tippling houses within and adjacent to the encampment of the army, by which the design of banishing the Sutlers from the army is in a great measure frustrated. The Deputy Quarter Master General is required forthwith, to make diligent inquiry, and examination, for discovering such houses, and suppressing them, and to assure all who are driving this pernicious trade, that if continued any longer, their liquors shall be seized, and they expelled from the neighbourhood of the army, on pain of the severest punishment if they return.

The Legislature of the State of New Jersey, having made provision for supplying their troops with cloaths and blankets; all officers sent thither for the purpose of collecting those articles, are by their commanding officers to be immediately recalled.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 25, 1777.

Parole Rutland. Countersigns Stafford, Troy.

For the information of the troops lately arrived, the General Order issued some time since is repeated; That *Tattoo* is not [to] be beaten in camp.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 26, 1777.

Parole Carlisle. Countersigns Derby, Dover.

If any Gentlemen of the army can give information to the General, of shoes, stockings or leather breeches, in quantities he will be exceedingly obliged to them. He will likewise be obliged to any of the General officers, for recommending proper persons to be employed in collecting these articles.

General Smallwood, and the Colonels of the Maryland regiments are to meet to morrow morning, at nine o'clock, at General Smallwood's quarters, to state, as far as they can, the ranks of all other officers in those regiments, and the dates which their commissions ought to bear. Where there are competitions for rank among the Colonels, they are to state their claims.

The money for the payment of the army for September is expected every moment. The regimental Pay Masters are immediately to make out their Abstracts for the month of October, and deliver them to the Pay Master General for examination. As an alteration in the payment of rations is now under consideration of Congress, it is recommended to the commanding officers of regiments not to add their ration accounts, to the pay rolls, until their determination is known, which will be signified in General Orders. The Pay Master General has complained of the slovenly, careless manner in which some of the captains make out their pay rolls. The regimental Pay Masters are not to receive any but such as are made out fair, and agreeable to the form some time since given out, by the Pay Master General, which the regimental Pay Masters are to furnish such captains with, as have not already received the same.

No regimental Pay Master is to leave the service, without first applying to the Commander in Chief, nor any new pay Master appointed without first obtaining his approbation.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 27, 1777.

Parole Glocester. Countersigns Bedford, Berwick.

A detachment of 300 men are to parade to morrow morning on the Grade-parade, precisely at half past three o'clock in the morning. Col. David Hall,[64] Lt. Col. Craig[65] and Major Tyler[66] are appointed Field Officers for the detachment.

Twelve light dragoons are to go on the same command, and to repair this evening to Col. Biddle's quarters.

AFTER ORDERS

A detachment of 100 men to be under the command of Capt. McLane, are to parade tomorrow morning at sun-rise, on the grand parade, with one or two days provisions and boxes full of ammunition. They will be absent from camp one week, near the enemy's lines, and are to go prepared accordingly.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White Marsh, November 28, 1777.

Parole Annapolis. Countersigns Boston, Charlestown.

At a General Court Martial held the 24th. instant, of which Col. Grayson was president, Major Ross,[67] charged with "Leaving his arms in the field, in the action of the 4th. of October near Germantown," was tried, and acquitted with the highest honor. The Commander in Chief approves the court's judgment. Major Ross is released from his arrest.

The General Court Martial of which Col. Grayson is president, is to sit to morrow morning, at the tavern next to Col. Biddle's quarters.

AFTER ORDERS

Such of the troops as are not already furnished with cooked provisions for to morrow, are to draw and cook them to night. At day break a cannon will be fired as a signal for the whole army to parade, ready to march. When the whole are completely formed, they may ground their arms,[68] but be ready to take them up again at a minute's warning. If it should rain or snow the men are not to parade.

Lord Sterling's division is to parade at one o'clock in

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64. Of the Delaware regiment. He was wounded at Germantown, Pa.; later was Governor of Delaware.

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65. Lieut. Col. Thomas(?) Craig, of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment.

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66. Maj. John Steel Tyler, of Jackson's Additional Continental regiment, He resigned in March, 1779; served subsequently as lieutenant colonel of Massachusetts Militia.

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67. Maj. David Ross, of Grayson's Additional Continental regiment. He resigned in December, 1777.

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68. Lay the arms on the ground, in front of them.

the morning.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 29, 1777.

Parole Kensington. Countersigns Newtown, Princeton.

The officers commanding regiments are to see, that their men's arms are put in the best order possible; and of the loaded ones, such as can be drawn, are to be drawn, and the others discharged the first fair day, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon; but to prevent the waste of *lead* , the men of each regiment, or brigade, are to discharge their pieces, into a bank of earth, from whence the lead may be taken again.

A court of enquiry is to sit to morrow morning at nine o'clock, at Col. Gist's quarters, to enquire into the conduct of Capt. Edward Scull of the 4th. Pennsylvania regiment in “Ordering the Pay Master of that regiment to pay Capt. Weitz[76] a sum of money, for a purpose suggested to be unwarrantable.” Col. Gist is appointed president of this court. Lieut. Col. Barber[77] and Major Ross are to be members.

Col. Spencer is appointed president, and Major Bayard and a Captain of Col. Lee's regiment members, of a Court of enquiry to sit to morrow morning at ten o'clock, at the president's quarters to inquire into the conduct of Lieut. Reynolds of Col. Malcom's regt: for “Abusing Daniel Messerly Esqr. and other persons on the 2nd. of last August,” as exhibited in their depositions.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, November 30, 1777.

Parole Northampton. Countersigns Greenland, Portsmouth.

On the 25th of November instant, the Honorable Continental Congress passed the following resolve, vizt:

Resolved. That General Washington be directed to publish in General orders, that Congress will speedily take into consideration the merits of such officers as have distinguished themselves by their intrepidity and their attention to the health and discipline of their men; and adopt such regulations

as shall tend to introduce order and good discipline into the army, and to render the situation of the officers and soldiery, with respect to cloathing and other necessaries, more eligible than it has hitherto been.

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76. Capt. Gaspar Weitzel(?), formerly of Miles's Rifle Regiment.

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77. Lieut. Col. Francis Barber, of the Third New Jersey Regiment. He was wounded at Monmouth, N.J., in June, 1778; at Newtown, N.Y., in August, 1779; and at Yorktown, Va., in October, 1781; colonel of the Second New Jersey Regiment in January, 1783; accidentally killed by a failing tree in February, 1783.

Forasmuch as it is the indispensible duty of all men, to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with gratitude their obligations to him for benefits received, and to implore such further blessings as they stand in need of; and it having pleased him in his abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of his common providence, but also, to smile upon us in the prosecution of a just and necessary war, for the defence of our unalienable rights and liberties.[78]

It is therefore recommended by Congress, that Thursday the 18th. day of December next be set apart for Solemn Thanksgiving and Praise; that at one time, and with one voice, the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor; and that, together with their sincere acknowledgements and offerings they may join the penitent confession of their sins; and supplications for such further blessings as they stand in need of. The Chaplains will properly notice this recommendation, that the day of thanksgiving may be duly observed in the army, agreeably to the intentions of Congress.

AFTER ORDERS

The whole army are to be under arms to morrow morning, at five o'clock, if it should not rain or snow. Lord Stirling's division are to lay upon their arms and be ready to turn out at a minute's warning.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, December 1, 1777.

Parole Durham. Countersigns Brunswick, Amboy.

Mr. Robert Duncan is appointed Paymaster to the fourth North Carolina regiment, and is to be respected as such.

A General Court Martial is to sit to morrow at 9 o'clock in the morning at the tavern next to Col. Biddle's quarters, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. Col. Ogden is appointed president of this court. Lieut. Cols. Simms, Wallace and Major North and a captain from the 1st. and 2nd. Pennsylv: Maxwell's, Conway's, Woodford's, Scott's, Poor's, Paterson's, and Learned's brigades are to be members of the court.

The Officers are to make out their Muster Rolls to the

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78. This preliminary statement was taken from the resolve of Congress of November 1 recommending the States to set apart a day of Thanksgiving. It was to Washington on November 7 and answered by him on November 10.

first of December, immediately. The term of time, which the men inlisted for, is to be inserted in every muster roll. The non-effectives are not to be inserted a second time.

Officers must pay strict attention to the orders issued respecting this part of their duty.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White-Marsh, December 2, 1777.

Parole Chatham. Countersigns Camden, Burke.

Returns are to be made early to morrow morning of all officers and men in the several brigades and corps, who have not had the small pox.

Every colonel, or officer commanding a regiment, or corps, is to make an immediate return, to the Pay Master General, of every pay mr. that has belonged to, or done duty as such, in any regiment or corps, the place of their abode, and the time when they left the service.

AFTER ORDERS

Whenever the Alarm is given, by the firing of three cannon, the whole baggage and provisions of the army, tents included, are to be put into the waggons, and immediately marched off the following roads. The right wing of both lines by the North Wales road, and the road by Edge's mill, and to

proceed to the 24th. milestone on those roads, unless further order is received. The left wing of both lines by the two roads which lead from the left of the army into the old York Road, at the 13th–15th Milestones, and to proceed to the 24th. milestone, or until further orders.

Whether the alarm guns be fired or not, the whole army is to be under arms at their respective alarm posts at day light to morrow morning, and the lines properly formed by the Major General in their respective commands.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White Marsh, December 3, 1777.

Parole Portugal. Countersigns Falmouth, Derby.

At a General Court martial whereof Col. Grayson was president, held the 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th of Nov. last, Major Howard[94] appeared before the court, charged with "1st. Wounding Capt. Lieut. Duffey[95] with his sword. 2nd. Abetting a riot in camp, and 3rd, In the front of his men

94. Maj. John Eager Howard, of the Fourth Maryland Regiment. He was lieutenant colonel of file Fifth Maryland Regiment in March, 1778; voted a medal by Congress for his conduct at Cowpens, S.C.; wounded at Eutaw Springs, S.C.; retired in April, 1783.

95. Capt.-Lieut. Patrick Duffey, of the Fourth Continental Artillery. He was promoted captain in February, 1778; dismissed in October, 1781.

(at his request assembled) attempting the life of Capt. Duffey with a loaded firelock, and fixed bayonet, being utterly subversive to good order and military discipline." The Court having considered the charges and the evidence are of opinion that Major Howard did not intentionally wound Capt. Duffey, and therefore acquit him of the first charge. Upon the second charge, they are of opinion, that however justifiable the motives were, by which Major Howard was at first actuated his conduct in the end was such as tended rather to promote than suppress a riot. They therefore sentence him to be reprimanded in General Orders. With respect to the 3rd. charge the Court are of opinion that it is not supported by evidence, and therefore do acquit him of the said charge.

Capt. Duffey appeared before the court, charged with "1st. Aiding and abetting a riot. 2nd. Assaulting and abusing Major Howard in the execution of his office." The Court having considered the first charge and the evidence, are of opinion that Capt. Duffey behaved with a warmth, which tended to

produce a riot, and do sentence him to be reprimanded in General Orders. Upon the second charge they are of opinion that Major Howard, when Capt. Duffey struck him, had deviated from the line of his duty, and consequently was not in the execution of his office. They do therefore acquit Capt. Duffey of the second charge.

The foregoing opinions are approved by the Commander in Chief, and the sentences of reprimand appear to be pronounced with great justness, on an impropriety of conduct unbecoming the character of officers, whose duty it is to suppress all riot and tumult, and to set examples of moderation, decency and order.

The officers and men of the company raised by the late Capt. Calderwood,[96] are to be annexed to Capt. Niven's[97] Company, in Col. Malcom's regiment.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, December 4, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

The troops are constantly to have one day's provision's on hand, ready cooked. The officers are to pay particular attention to this,

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96. Capt. James Calderwood, of an independent Pennsylvania company. He died in September, 1777, of wounds received at the Battle of Brandywine.

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97. Capt. Daniel Niven. He became captain of Sappers and Miners in April, 1779 captain of Engineers in March, 1780; served to close of the war.

and consider it as a standing rule, that if they are suddenly called to arms the men may not be distressed.

Major General, The Marquis La Fayette is to take the command of the division lately commanded by General Stephen.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, December 6, 1777.

Parole Bennington. Countersigns Bedford, Bethlehem.

The Commissary General says he has put six day's provisions into the hands of the division and brigade Commissaries; if therefore the troops want provisions, it must be the fault of the latter; and this want will be attended with such pernicious consequences, that no excuse will be admitted in behalf of any Commissary who fails supplying his division or brigade, but a severe example will be made of him.

The troops are to ground their arms at their alarm posts; and as soon as possible, draw and cook their provisions for to day and to morrow, and immediately set about making the best provision they can of wood and huts for to night.

The officers commanding brigades, and corps, are again called upon, to bring back from the baggage, sent off yesterday, every man who has cloathing and shoes sufficient to enable him to do duty. And to prevent the strolling and loss of men, the commanding Officer of every corps is to see, that the rolls are called every two hours, and to know where every man is.

The Q. M. Genl. has stores to supply such brigades as want them. The Brigade Qr. Masters, and all to whom any are issued, are to be accountable, respectively, to those of whom they receive them.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White Marsh, December 8, 1777.

Parole Lexington. Countersigns Bunker Hill, Stillwater.

The Commander in Chief returns his

warmest thanks to Col. Morgan, and the officers and men of his intrepid corps, for their gallant behaviour in the several skirmishes with the enemy yesterday.[99] He hopes the most spirited conduct will distinguish the whole army, and gain them a just title to the praises of their country, and the glory due to brave men. They will remember, that they are engaged in the cause of humanity and of freedom, and that the period is probably at hand, when, by their noble and generous exertions, the Liberties and Independence of America shall be firmly established.

The General with pleasure has been informed that the Militia of Maryland under Colonel Gist,[1] shewed in yesterday's skirmishes a spirit becoming freemen, and which claims his sincere acknowledgements.

The enemy remaining quiet, the officers are to be particularly attentive that the men draw and cook their provisions, that they may be ever ready for service.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, White-Marsh, December 9, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

The tents are near the bridge, on the Skippack road, and so many are to be immediately sent for and pitched, as are necessary for officers and men that have not huts, that will keep themselves and their arms dry. But the General earnestly recommends that no more tents be pitched than are absolutely necessary to shelter the troops. Neither officers nor men are to be absent from camp upon any pretence whatever.

A Captain and two Subalterns are wanted for the Corps of Invalids[2] commanded by Col Lewis Nicola. Officers disabled in the service, so as to be unfit for field duty, who are desirous of engaging in that corps, upon being properly recommended, will receive commissions therefor.

The General Court Martial, of which Colonel Ogden is president, is to sit at the usual place, to morrow morning, at nine o'clock. If any of the members are sick or absent, the Brigade Majors are to warn other officers of the same rank in their stead. An orderly serjeant from each division to attend the court.

An Orderly Serjeant from each brigade is to attend

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99. Howe maneuvered in front of Washington's lines at Whitemarsh from December 5 to 8, and several skirmishes of greater or less intensity took place. On the 8th the British marched back to Philadelphia and went into quarters for the winter. (See Washington's letter to the President of Congress, Dec. 10, 1777, *post*.)

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1. The militia acting under Col. Mordecai Gist, of the Third Maryland Regiment.

2. The Invalid Corps was established by a resolve of Congress of Apr. 22, 1777. Col. Lewis Nicola commanded the corps, which performed valuable service in furnishing guards during the remainder of the war.

constantly at Head Quarters.

Brigade returns are to be made to the Adjutant General to morrow morning, at 9 o'clock, of all the sick in camp, and in private houses, about the country, and of the number of waggons necessary to transport them to the hospitals; but the surgeons are to return none for waggons, who are able to march, when their packs are carried for them, otherwise from the scarcity of waggons, some of the sick will be left in camp. Each brigadier, or officer commanding a brigade, will see that his surgeons duly comply with this order. When these returns are made, the surgeons will apply to Dr. McKnight, at Colonel Biddle's quarters for waggons. One careful officer from each brigade, is to be sent with the sick of the brigade to see them properly taken care of on their way to the hospitals. Three days' provisions are to be sent with the sick. The Convalescents 'tis supposed will be sufficient to wait on the sick.

Each officer commanding [a] brigade is to make a return to morrow at orderly time of their killed, wounded and missing since General Howe's late march from Philadelphia, and if any during that time, lost to a sense of duty, have infamously deserted, their names are to be added to the same returns.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, White Marsh, December 10, 1777.

Parole Worcester. Countersigns Rutland, Salisbury.

The army to march at four o'clock in the morning from the right.[10] A Subaltern from each regiment and a Captain from each brigade, under the command of a Field Officer from the line, are to assemble at General Knox's quarters in the morning and remain 'till the Army moves off the ground, and then see that all stragglers in the camp, and its environs, are collected and marched after it. They are also to see that no baggage, entrenching tools or other articles are left, or that they are secured under proper guards taken from the Pennsylvania Militia, by application to the commanding officer thereof.

10. By order of Washington the general officers drew up a plan of the order of march from Whitemarsh across the Schuylkill River, and this plan, signed by Maj. Gen. John Sullivan for the officers, is filed in the *Washington Papers* under date of December 10.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Sweede's Ford, December 12, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

A careful subaltern from each brigade is to repair this day to the last encampment of the army, to collect and take care of the sick and conduct them to Reading. These officers are to apply to the Regimental Surgeons for information where to find the sick of their brigades. Every motive of duty and humanity requires the most exact attention to this order. Drs. Draper and Campbell, at Mr. West's will give assistance to the subalterns.

The Commander in Chief, with great pleasure, expresses his approbation, of the behaviour of the Pennsylvania Militia yesterday, under Genl. Potter, in the vigorous opposition they made to a body of the enemy on the other side Schuylkill.

Daniel Clymer Esqr. is appointed Deputy Commissary of prisoners, to act in the absence of the Commissary General of prisoners.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, at the Gulph,[14] December 13, 1777.

Parole Carlisle. Countersigns Potsgrove, White Marsh.

The officers are without delay to examine the arms and accoutrements of their men, and see that they are put in good order.

Provisions are to be drawn, and cooked for to morrow and next day. A gill of Whiskey is to be issued immediately to each officer, soldier, and waggoner.

The weather being likely to be fair, the tents are not to be pitched. But the axes in the waggons are to be sent for, without delay, that the men may make fires and hut themselves for the ensuing night in the most comfortable manner.

The army is to be ready to march precisely at four o'clock to morrow morning.

An officer from each regiment is to be sent forthwith to the encampment on the other side Schuylkill, to search that and the houses for all stragglers, and bring them up to their corps. All the waggons not yet over are also to be sent for and got over as soon as possible.

Mr. Archibald Read is appointed paymaster to the 8th.

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14. The Gulph was the place where Gulph (or Gulf) Creek cuts through Gulph Hill and empties into the Schuylkill River at West Conshohocken, Pa. Matsons Ford crosses the Schuylkill at this point.

Pennsylvania regiment, and is to be respected as such.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at the Gulph, December 14, 1777.

Parole Raritan. Countersigns Schuylkill, Delaware.

The regiments of horse are to draw provisions of any issuing Commissary, lying most convenient to them, upon proper returns therefor.

Such of the baggage as is not absolutely necessary for the troops, and all the Commissarys and others stores, are to remain on this side of the gulph.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, at the Gulph, December 15, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —

A field officer from each brigade, is to inspect immediately, all the men of his brigade, now with the baggage, and take from thence, to their brigades, every man who is able to do duty in the line. Major

Snead[29] is (till further orders) to take charge of the men remaining after this for the baggage guard, and report any who are left with the baggage contrary to this order.

AFTER ORDERS

The baggage of the army is to move at seven, and the whole army at ten o'clock, to morrow morning, in such routes and order, as shall be previously directed.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head. Quarters, at the Gulph, December 16, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

The tents are to be carried to the encampment of the troops, and pitched immediately.

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29. Maj. Thomas Snead, of the Eleventh Virginia Regiment. He resigned in March, 1778.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at the Gulph, December 17, 1777.

Parole Warwick. Countersigns Woodbridge, Winchester.

The Commander in Chief with the highest satisfaction expresses his thanks to the officers and soldiers for the fortitude and patience with which they have sustained the fatigues of the Campaign. Altho' in some instances we unfortunately failed, yet upon the whole Heaven hath smiled on our Arms and crowned them with signal success; and we may upon the best grounds conclude, that by a spirited continuance of the measures necessary for our defence we shall finally obtain the end of our Warfare, Independence, Liberty and Peace. These axe blessings worth contending for at every hazard. But we hazard nothing. The power of America alone, duly exerted, would have nothing to dread from the force of Britain. Yet we stand not wholly upon our ground. France yields us every aid we ask, and there are reasons to believe the period is not very distant, when she will take a more active part, by declaring war against the British Crown. Every motive therefore, irresistably urges us, nay commands us, to a firm and manly perseverance in our opposition to our cruel oppressors, to slight difficulties, endure hardships, and contemn every danger. The General

ardently wishes it were now in his power, to conduct the troops into the best winter quarters. But where are these to be found ? Should we retire to the interior parts of the State, we should find them crowded with virtuous citizens, who, sacrificing their all, have left Philadelphia, and fled thither for protection. To their distresses humanity forbids us to add. This is not all, we should leave a vast extent of fertile country to be despoiled and ravaged by the enemy, from which they would draw vast supplies, and where many of our firm friends would be exposed to all the miseries of the most insulting and wanton depredation. A train of evils might be enumerated, but these will suffice. These considerations make it indispensibly necessary for the army to take such a position, as will enable it most effectually to prevent distress and

to give the most extensive security; and in that position we must make ourselves the best shelter in our power. With activity and diligence Huts may be erected that will be warm and dry. In these the troops will be compact, more secure against surprises than if in a divided state and at hand to protect the country. These cogent reasons have determined the General to take post in the neighbourhood of this camp; and influenced by them, he persuades himself, that the officers and soldiers, with one heart, and one mind, will resolve to surmount every difficulty, with a fortitude and patience, be coming their profession, and the sacred cause in which they are engaged. He himself will share in the hardship, and partake of every inconvenience.

To morrow being the day set apart by the Honorable Congress for public Thanksgiving and Praise; and duty calling us devoutely to express our grateful acknowledgements to God for the manifold blessings he has granted us. The General directs that the army remain in it's present quarters, and that the Chaplains perform divine service with their several Corps and brigades. And earnestly exhorts, all officers and soldiers, whose absence is not indispensibly necessary, to attend with reverence the solemnities of the day.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at the Gulph, December 18, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

Persons having any passes from Major John Clarke are to pass all guards.

The Commander in Chief approves, the following sentences of a General Court Martial, the 22nd. November last, whereof Major North was president.

Adjutant Ralston[35] of the 1st Pennsylvania Brigade, charged with "Making a false return, and signing it, with ungentlemanly behaviour, disobedience of orders, and leaving his arrest." By the unanimous opinion of the court, he was found guilty of making a false return, contrary to the 1st Article of the 5th Sec. of the articles of war, and sentenced to be cashiered.

Joseph Conn, Quarter Master of the 1st. Pennsylv. Regt. charged with "Disobedience of orders, neglect of duty and fraudulent conduct was acquitted of the charge of fraudulent conduct but found guilty of disobedience of orders and

35. Robert Ralston.

neglect of duty," and sentenced to be dismissed from the service.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial held the 30th. of Novr. last of which Col. Grayson was president.

Capt. Havelman[36] charged with. "Wounding Moses Plaine a soldier in the 11th. Virginia regiment," confessed the fact, but justified it by the insolence of the soldier. The Court having considered the evidence are of opinion the justification is not sufficient, and do sentence him to be reprimanded on the Grand parade by the Major General of the day. This is to be done the next time the guards are paraded.

The Major Generals and officers commanding divisions, are to appoint an active field officer in and for each of their respective brigades, to superintend the business of hurting, agreeably to the directions they shall receive; and in addition to these, the commanding officer of each regiment is to appoint an officer to oversee the building of huts for his own regiment; which officer is to take his orders from the field officer of the brigade he belongs to, who is to mark out the precise spot, that every *hut* , for officers and soldiers, is to be placed on, that uniformity and order may be observed.

An exact return of all the tools, now in the hands of every regiment, is to be made immediately to the Qr. Mr. General, who, with the Adjutant General, is to see that they, together with those in store, are duly and justly allotted to the regimental overseers of the work; who are to keep an account of the men's names, into whose hands they are placed, that they may be accountable for them. The Superintendents and Overseers are to be exempt from all other duty, and will moreover be allowed for their trouble.

The Colonels, or commanding officers of regiments, with their Captains, are immediately to cause their men to be divided into squads of twelve, and see that each squad have their proportion of tools, and set about a hut for themselves: And as an encouragement to industry and art, the General promises to reward the party in each regiment, which finishes their hut in the quickest, and most workmanlike manner, with *twelve*

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36. Capt. Arnold Havelman (Hevelman), of the Second Canadian Regiment.

dollars. And as there is reason to believe, that boards, for covering, may be found scarce and difficult to be got; He offers *One hundred* dollars to any officer or soldier, who in the opinion of three Gentlemen, he shall appoint as judges, shall substitute some other covering, that may be cheaper and quicker made, and will in every respect answer the end.

The Soldier's huts are to be of the following dimensions, viz: fourteen by sixteen each, sides, ends and roofs made with logs, and the roof made tight with split slabs, or in some other way; the sides made tight with clay, fire-place made of wood and secured with clay on the inside eighteen inches thick, this fireplace to be in the rear of the hut; the door to be in the end next the street; the doors to be made of split oak-slabs, unless boards can be procured. Side-walls to be six and a half feet high. The officers huts to form a line in the rear of the troops, one hut to be allowed to each General Officer, one to the Staff of each brigade, one to the field officers of each regiment, one to the Staff of each regiment, one to the commissioned officers of two companies, and one to every twelve non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

AFTER ORDERS

The army and baggage are to march to morrow in the time and manner already directed in the orders of the 15th. instant, Genl. Sullivan's division excepted, which is to remain on its present ground 'till further orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, at the Valley Forge, December 20, 1777.

Parole Haverhill. Countersigns Concord, Cambridge.

Genl. McIntosh is appointed to the command of the North Carolina brigade.

The Major Generals accompanied by the Engineers are to view the ground attentively, and fix upon the proper spot and mode for hutting so as to render the camp as strong and inaccessible as possible. The Engineers after this are to mark the ground out, and direct the field Officers appointed to superintend the buildings for each brigade where they are placed.

The soldiers in cutting their firewood, are to save

such parts of each tree, as will do for building, reserving sixteen or eighteen feet of the trunk, for logs to rear their huts with. In doing this each regiment is to reap the benefit of their own labour.

All those, who in consequence of the orders of the 18th instant, have turned their thoughts to an easy and expeditious method of covering the huts, are requested to communicate their plans to Major Generals Sullivan, Greene or Lord Stirling, who will cause experiments to be made, and assign the profer'd reward to the best projector.

The Quarter Master General is to delay no time, but use his utmost exertions, to procure large quantities of straw, either for covering the huts, if it should be found necessary, or for beds for the soldiers. He is to assure the farmers that unless they get their grain out immediately, the straw will be taken with the grain in it, and paid for as straw only.

The Quarter Master General is to collect, as soon as possible, all the tents not now used by the troops, and as soon as they are hutted, all the residue of the tents, and have them washed and well dried, and then laid up in store, such as are good for the next campaign, the others for the uses which shall be directed; the whole are to be carefully preserved. The Colonels and Officers commanding regiments are forthwith to make return to the Qr. Mr. General, of every tent belonging to their corps.

The army being now come to a fixed station, the Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades, are immediately to take effectual measures, to collect, and bring to camp, all the officers and soldiers at present scattered about the country.

All officers are enjoined to see that their men do not wantonly, or needlessly burn and destroy rails, and never fire their sheds or huts when they leave them.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Valley-Forge, December 21, 1777.

Parole Cumberland. Countersigns Carlisle, Caroline.

The field officers who are appointed to superintend the business of hutting, are to call upon Col. Meade at Head Quarters for the model of the huts, and directions about placing them.

Four Carpenters, and five expert axmen, from each division are to parade at General Sullivan's quarters at three o'clock this afternoon. Genl. Poor's and Glover's brigades to be considered as one division.

The General congratulates the army, on the arrival of a French Ship, at Portsmouth, with 48 brass cannon, 4 pounders, with carriages complete; 19 nine Inch mortars, 2500 nine inch bombs, 2000 four pound ball, entrenching tools, 4100 stands of arms, a quantity of powder and 61,051 lbs of sulpher.

AFTER ORDERS

All the Artillery of the army is to be collected together at the park; the detachments are to march thither, to morrow morning at nine o'clock.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Valley Forge, December 22, 1777.

Parole—. Countersigns—.

The good of the service requiring at this time, the attention of officers and soldiers to duty, the General orders, that no furloughs be granted to officers above the rank of Captain, but from himself; nor to those below that rank, but from the Major General, or Officer commanding the division, they belong to: Noncommissioned Officers and privates may be furloughed by their respective Brigadiers, or officers commanding brigades. But the General does in most express and positive terms, enjoin the Major Generals and Brigadiers, to grant furloughs only in case of absolute necessity, and even then to have proper regard to the state and condition of the regiment and company, before they are given. All furloughs to officers are to be registered by the Adjutant of the regiment; and those to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, by the commanding officer of the company they belong to, or they will not be deemed valid. The strictest punctuality, in returning, at the expiration of their furloughs will be required of all those who obtain them.

Major General Sullivan having obligingly undertaken the direction of a bridge to be built over the Schuylkill, is to be excused from the common duties of the camp.

The old and new field Officers of the day are to be punctual, as to time in their attendance, at the mounting of the picquets, that the duty may go on regularly, and the men not to be detained on the parade. And it is expressly ordered that officers and men, who go on

picquet take their provisions with them, as none will be allowed to come off to get them.

As the proper arming of the officers would add considerable strength to the army, and the officers themselves derive great confidence from being armed in time of action, the General orders every one of them to provide himself with a half-pike or spear, as soon as possible; firearms when made use of with drawing their attention too much from the men; and to be without either, has a very aukward and unofficerlike appearance. That these half-pikes may be of one length and uniformly made, the Brigadiers are to meet at General Maxwell's quarters to morrow at 10 o'clock in the forenoon and direct their size and form.

The Quarter Master General is to provide a number of pails, that every hut may have one.

Any soldier who shall be found discharging his musket without leave, and in an irregular manner, is to receive 20 lashes immediately on the spot.

At a General Court Martial whereof Col. Grayson was president, held on the 30th. of November last, Capt. Duffey was tried on the charge of “Having broke his arrest.” The court having duly weighed the evidence, and the circumstances of the case, are of opinion that Capt. Duffey did break his arrest, by going six miles from camp, without leave of the commanding officer of the regiment, and falls under the penalty of the 20th. Article, 14th Section of the articles of war: But as it is not in proof that he did this in order to avoid a trial, or to screen himself from Justice, and it appearing in evidence, that he is an excellent officer, and has rose from the station of a soldier to his present rank by merit alone, the Court do in the strongest terms unanimously recommend him to His Excellency's clemency. The General approves the sentence; but for the reasons assigned in the above recommendation pardons the prisoner, and orders that he go on duty.

The Commander in Chief approves the following sentences of a General Court Martial, whereof Col. Ogden was president, held the 2nd. instant, viz:

Captain Vail[61] of the 2nd. N. Carolina battalion, charged with "1st, Cowardice at the battle of Germantown; 2nd, with not taking his post when ordered," was found guilty of the first charge and sentenced to be dismissed from the service; and that his crime, name, place of abode,

61. Capt. Edward Vail.

and punishment, be published in the news-papers in and about the camp, and that particular state from which he came; and that it shall be deemed scandalous for any officer to associate with him. The Court acquit Capt. Vail of the 2nd. charge.

Capt. Granburry[62] of the 3rd. N. Carolina Battn. charged with "1st, Neglecting his duty and quitting his command; 2nd, With misdemeanors unbecoming the character of an officer," was acquitted of both charges.

AFTER ORDERS

A Captain, Subaltern and twenty men from each brigade, together with the Brigade Commissaries and their waggons, are to parade forthwith in the road and field near the Bake-house by Head Quarters, and take instructions from Col. Stewart, Commissary General of Issues.

Each brigade thro' the line to furnish a good partizan Captain, two Subs, three Serjeants, three Corporals and fifty privates, all picked men, fit for annoying the enemy in light parties. Those of the Right Wing to parade at General Sullivan's quarters, and receive orders from him; those of the Left Wing at General Greene's quarters, and take orders from him; those of the second line and of the N. Carolina Brigade at the park, and take orders from Lord Stirling. The whole to parade immediately and to be furnished with a full supply of ammunition of 40 rounds each.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Valley-Forge, December 23, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

Those men engaged in building the bridge, under General Sullivan's direction, are to be supplied with provisions by themselves, upon General Sullivan's order and are therefore to be deducted from the regimental provision returns.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Valley-Forge, December 24, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

Every regiment is to draw provisions, to complete their rations, for to morrow; and the whole army being supplied up to that time, the Issuing Commissaries are then to make return, to the Commissary General of Issues, of all the provisions they have on hand.

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62. Capt. Thomas Granberry.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Valley Forge, December 25, 1777.

Parole Springfield. Countersigns Windsor, Hartford.

Each brigade is to detach an active, careful subaltern and eight men, who with an Assistant Commissary are to go to such places as the Commissary General, or his Assistant at Camp shall direct, for the purpose of collecting flour, grain, cattle and pork for the army. Such men are to be selected, as are able of body, and know how to thresh. Lieut. Col. Bayard[74] is to take the command of these detachments, and see them duly employed for the purposes above mentioned. The men are to take their arms, blankets and necessaries with them; and parade to morrow morning at nine o'clock, at the Black-Bull. Three baggage waggons of each brigade are to be unloaded and parade at the same time and place, to go with the detachments.

Very correct returns are to be made immediately, of every corps in the army, to be transmitted to their respective states, to enable them to determine on the measures best adapted for completing the corps to the establishment. Of the nine old Virginia regiments, the number reinlisted are to be particularly specified, and in the New England regiments those inlisted for a short period are to be distinguished from the rest.

Complaint has been made, that divers soldiers, some on horseback back, have been plundering the inhabitants; this probably arises at least in part from the rolls not being regularly called, and absentees duly noticed. The General requires therefore that this be constantly done in future;

and if any soldier is caught riding a waggon or other horse, in or out of camp, he is to be severely punished.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Valley Forge, December 26, 1777.

Parole Cape Henry. Countersigns Cape Cod, Cape May.

A General Court Martial is to set at the House of Wiley Bodles, near the provost, at nine o'clock, this morning, for the trial of all prisoners which shall be brought before them. Colonel Scammell is appointed president of this court; and a Captain from Muhlenberg's, end. Pennsylvania, Glover's, Paterson's, Huntington's, and McIntosh's brigades, and a subaltern from Weedan's, Woodford's, Scott's, 1st Pennsylvania, Learned's

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74. Lieut. Col. Stephen Bayard, of the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment. He was transferred to the Third Pennsylvania Regiment in January, 1783.

and Varnum's brigades, will constitute the members of the court.

Henry McCormick Esqr. is appointed Brigade Major to the first Pennsylvania brigade, and is to be respected as such.

It is with inexpressible grief and indignation that the General has received information of the cruel outrages and roberries lately committed by soldiers, on the other side of the Schuylkill: Were we in an enemy's country such practices would be unwarrantable; but committed against our friends are in the highest degree base, cruel, and injurious to the cause in which we are engaged. They demand therefore, and shall receive the severest punishment. Such crimes have brought reproach upon the army; and every officer and soldier suffers by the practices of such villains; and 'tis the interest, as well as duty, of every honest man to detect them, and prevent a repetition of such crimes. The General earnestly desires the General Officers, and those commanding Corps, to represent to their men, the cruelty, baseness and wickedness, of such practices, and the injury they do the army, and the common cause. And still further, to prevent the commission of those crimes, the General positively orders.

1st. That no officer, under the degree of a Field Officer, or officer commanding a regiment, give passes to non-commissioned officers or soldiers, on any pretence whatever.

2nd. That no non-commissioned officer, or soldier, have with him, arms of any kind, unless he is on duty.

3rd. That every non-commissioned officer, or soldier, caught without the limits of the camp, not having such pass, or with his arms, shall be confined and severely punished.

4th. That the rolls of each company be called frequently, and that every evening, at different times, between the hours of *eight* and *ten* o'clock, all the men's quarters be visited, by such officers as the Brigadiers or the Officers commanding corps, shall daily appoint, and all absentees are to be exemplarily punished.

5th. That as some of the villains complained of, have been found mounted upon waggon horses; every waggon-master and conductor of waggons, is constantly to be near his charge, and frequently, particularly every evening and morning, to inspect his waggons, and horses, and see that neither they, nor the waggoners are missing; and if a waggoner, or any of his horses are missing, and not on duty, he is to be confined and punished.

Complaint has been made by the Surgeons of the

hospitals, that the sick are often sent to them, without the lists required by the General Orders issued the 12th. of November. To those orders all officers are referred for direction in this point, and for the disposition of the arms of the sick.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Valley Forge, December 27, 1777.

Parole Castleton. Countersigns Pittsburg, Stanwix.

Mr. Berryman Greene at present Quarter Master is appointed Pay Master, to the first regiment of Light Dragoons, and to be respected as such.

Mr. John Hughes, Quarter Master Serjeant to the 6th. troop, is appointed Quarter Master to the same regiment in the room of Quarter Master Greene, and to be respected as such.

All the troops are to draw and cook provisions for tomorrow.

Notwithstanding the orders repeatedly given, for calling the absent officers to camp, the Commander in Chief is informed, that many are still scattered about the Country, mispending their time, to the prejudice of the service, and injury of those officers who remain and attend their duty in Camp. He therefore directs, that the Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades forthwith make a strict inquiry, concerning all the officers absent from their brigades; and such as are absent without leave from proper authority, or having had such leave remain unnecessarily absent, are to be immediately notified to return to camp without delay on pain of being suspended or cashiered.

Each brigade Quarter Master is to make a return, this afternoon, to the D. Q. M. General of the number of officer's huts necessary for their brigades, according to the regulation in General Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Valley Forge, December 28, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

All the troops are to draw and cook provisions for to morrow. Two Captains of General Wayne's division are to be detached to aid Lt. Col. Bayard in the business committed to his charge. The Assistant Commissary General (Mr. Chaloner[89]) will inform the captains where Col. Bayard may be found.

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89. John Chaloner.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head-Quarters, Valley-Forge, December 29, 1777.

Parole Germantown. Countersigns Concord, Charlestown.

The Commander in Chief earnestly exhorts the officers of every rank to use their utmost exertions to have the huts completed as soon as possible, that the troops may get comfortably lodged.

He also directs a gill of spirits to be served this afternoon to each non-commissioned officer and soldier. And as officers may find it difficult and expensive to procure *spirits* for their own use in camp, he authorises those of each regiment, to depute and send one of their own corps into this, or

the neighbouring State, to purchase such spirits, and other articles for their accomodation in camp, as they shall find convenient for their own use only.

The returns which were called for, on the 25th. instant, were intended to pass thro' the hands of the Commander in Chief, to be by him transmitted to the respective states, where the troops were raised; those who have failed making such returns, to the Adjutant General, are to do it immediately.

GENERAL ORDERS

Head Quarters, Valley Forge, December 30, 1777.

Parole —. Countersigns —.

Great numbers of prisoners are now in the Provost, suffering extremely from the severity of the season. Brigade General Courts Martial are to be appointed for to morrow, and to sit daily, 'till all the prisoners belonging to the respective brigades are tried.