

VALLEY FORGE.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has recently acquired the papers of John Chaloner, Commissary of Purchases to Washington's army, comprising Letter Books, Receipt Books, Muster Rolls, and a voluminous correspondence connected with his department. These very valuable papers cover the period between the later part of 1777 and the capture of Lord Cornwallis' forces at Yorktown. As a whole, they develop a better knowledge of the workings of this important department than other Revolutionary papers in the collections of the Society or elsewhere. Washington's orders for the movement of his army from Valley Forge on the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British army, and a few other documents, have been selected for publication.

*Order of March & Route of the Army from Camp
Valley Forge to Newborough on the North
River opposite Fishkiln.*

Poor,	}	1	Lee,	Corriels.
Varnum,				
Huntington,				
1st Pennsylvania,	}	2	Mifflin	Sherads.
2d. Pennsylvania,				
late Conways,				
Woodford,	}	3	Marquis	Corriels.
Scott,				
N° Carolina,				
Glover,	}	4	DeKalb	Easton.
Patterson,				
Learned,				
Weedon,	}	5th	Stirling.	Corriels.
Mulenberg,				
1st Maryland,				
2d ditto.				

The Detachment under Col. Jackson to move & take Possession of Philadelphia & prevent plundering &

any abuse of Persons. Vanschoick's Regt. to replace the 8th P. Regiment in the P. Brigade.

The 2d State Regiment of Virginia to replace the 13th Regt., Scotts Brigade. Part of Artillery to be attach'd to the Several Divisions Equally & march with them. The 1st & 2^d Divisions to move the Morning after Intelligence is rec^d of the Enemy's Evacuation of the City—the 3^d & 4th Divisions the Morning after these & the 5th Division the morning succeeding—every days March to begin at 4 o'clock A. M. at furthest.

G^o Washington.

1st 3^d & 5th Divisions by Corriels Ferry & through to the Clove by Smiths—

To Corriels & Cross	3 days	
Halt 1 Day	1 “	
White House	1 “	
3 Miles beyond the	}	1 “
Cross Roads		
4 Miles beyond	}	1 “
Morris Town		
Halt	1 “	
Pompton Bridge	1 “	
Suffereans	1 “	
near Smiths Tavern	1 “	
halt if necessary	1 “	
Newborough	1 “	

13 days

2^d Division by Sherads ferry & Sussix Court House.

To Sherads ferry & cross	3 days
Halt	1 “
Union Iron Works	1 “
Hackitts Town	1 “
Sussix Court House	1 “
Halt	1 “

4 miles beyond C. Martins	1 day
Warwick	1 “
5 miles beyond Chester	1 “
halt if necessary	1 “
Newborough	1 “

13 days

4th Division by East Town & Sussix Court House.

To Easton	3 days
Halt	1 “
Crossing	1 “
6 miles beyond Reers	1 “
Sussix Court House	1 “
Halt	1 “
Then same as 2 ^d Division	5 “

13 days

Regard to be had to the Convenience of Water as well as Distance.

The Disposition for the Baggage of the Army to be as follows.

The Commander in Chief's Baggage is to follow Lord Stirling's Division—The Adjutant Gen^l—Pay Master Gen^l—Muster Master Gen^l—Auditors of accompts—Gen^l Off^{rs} of the Division—Baggage of the Division—Waggons of the Q^r M^r Gen^{ls} Department—Military Stores—Flying Hospital next & lastly the Commissary & Forage Master Gen^{ls}. The Waggons of the other Divisions to follow the Division in order following—The Gen^l Off^{rs} in front of the Columns of Waggons next to the troops the Regimental baggage & tents—Q^r M^r Gen^{ls} Stores belonging to the Brigades, Commissary Stores & lastly the Forage Waggons—

The Gen^l Off^{rs} Commanding the Grand division to appoint such Guards upon the Baggage as shall be necessary for the security thereof. They will also

appoint a party of Pioneers to move in front of the Columns to assist the Artificers in repairing Bridges & bad places in the Roads.

There will be a party of Artificers to go in front and Rear of each Grand Division to mend Bridges & repair broken Carriages which will take their orders from the Commanding Officers of the Divisions.

Received May 14, 1778 of Baron Stewben four horses into the Continental Yard all Branded C. A.

Camp Valey Forge

Alex. Church.

Please to deliver to the Bearer the best riding Horse in the Yard, to be taken to Head Quarters for a Member of Congress to ride to York Town.

Cha. Pettit A. Q. M. Gen^l

To Mr A. Church.

16 May 1778.

Twenty two Horses herewith sent from Col. R. L. Hooper to be delivered to Mr. James Thompson Waggon Master Gen^l who will give a Receipt for them. If Baron Steuben is not yet supplied, let him have his choice of these. The rest for the Artillery & Teams.

Cha. Pettit A. Q. M. Gen^l.

Mr James Thompson W. M. G.

Head Quarters 3^d June 1778.

Sir.

His Excellency desires me to acquaint you that if Tomkins could produce Col. Hendricks original discharge it would avail him nothing—as a Colonel has no right to give discharges to any but men who from some bodily infirmity or defect are clearly unfit for service—and the doing it even in these cases has only been allowed to save delay and trouble—however as Tomkins appears to be under peculiar circumstances,

and you say the business of your department would be prejudiced by his immediate removal, His Excellency consents to your detaining him in the capacity in which he has hitherto been employed under you, 'till another can be provided, and the fact of his discharge investigated.

I am your most obed^t Serv^t

John Laurens,
Aide de Camp.

The Waggon Master General.

Head Quarters 18 June 1778.

Sir.

You are immediately to appoint an Active person of your department, for the purpose of collecting and taking possession of all provisions the Enemy may have left behind them, in Philadelphia, as well as for making any other necessary arrangement there to your department—particular orders for which he will receive from Major General Arnold, who will command in the City.

I am Sir

Your most obedient Serv^t

G^o Washington

The Commiss^y Gen^l of Purchases.

Camp Valley Forge June 19th 1778.

Sir.

The above is a Copy of His Excellencys order to me —You are hereby appointed to collect & take possession of all provisions that may be found in the Citty of Philadelphia and to execute every matter in my Department within this Citty 'till further directed by Col. Blaine D. C. G. of Purchases.

Your Hum Serv^t

Jere Wadsworth.

To Jno. Chaloner Esq.

Purch^r Comm^y.

Pawling Ford 22^d Feb^r 1778

Dear White,

Am order'd by his Excellency Gen^l Washington and Committee of Congress on a tour of four Hundred Miles. Congress is very Pressing for a statement of our Acct—as soon as you arrive here you will begin to regulate my Acc^{ts}, take Possession of two Rooms in old Mr. Pawlings and so soon as the Bridge is finished move there, the first thing is to regulate the Acc^{ts}, the Cattle delivered to the sundry Divisions, Brigades, and Detachments of the Army this done and as soon as you receive a regular sett of Books from me, you will prepare them for opening proper Acc^{ts} against each purchaser—these books will forward to you by very first opportunity and am D^r Sir

Your Hble Serv^t,

Mr White.

Eph. Blaine.

N. B. Mr Chaspyon is engaged to assist me.