Letters of Major Baurmeister during the Philadelphia Campaign, 1777-1778

The following letters are among the papers acquired from the von Jungkenn family by the William L. Clements Library in 1932.

Friedrich Christian Arnold, freiherr von Jungkenn, to whom the letters are all addressed, held various positions in the army of Hesse-Cassel as well as at the Landgrave’s court. During the Philadelphia campaign of 1777-8, when these were written, he was a Major General (commissioned May, 1777) and Lord High Chamberlain. In 1780 he became Minister of State—a post that included, among others, the duties of a secretary of war.

Comparatively little is known of Baurmeister. He belonged to the Regiment von Mirbach, came to America in 1776, and served on the staffs of Heister, Knyphausen, and Sir Henry Clinton as adjutant and aide-de-camp. Throughout the Pennsylvania campaign of 1777-8 he was attached to Knyphausen’s staff. Thus, he was in a position to acquire considerable information—and misinformation—which he duly reported to his patron and superior officer, von Jungkenn.

The translation is as literal as it can be and still be intelligible. Baurmeister’s spelling has presented difficulties. Proper names, particularly English ones, often bear so little resemblance to their originals that they can be positively identified only by checking in other sources. Nor is the spelling consistent. Names of even his close associates appear in various guises. Consequently, correct forms have been used whenever these could be positively ascertained. In all other cases Baurmeister’s spelling is given. Eighteenth century place names, though obsolete today, have, of course, been retained.

University of Michigan

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Bernhard A. Uhlendorf

Edna Vosper
BAURMEISTER TO VON JUNGKENN, AUGUST 31, 1777

Right Honorable Lord,
Gracious High and Mighty Colonel:—

For lack of time I am unable to write a complete journal; but since a packet is being made up I do not want to miss an opportunity to send your Lordship at least a summary report: General Clinton on his return from England was ordered to take over the command at Kings Bridge, which he did on July 14th when his Excellency General von Knyphausen left that post. The latter remained in New York until the 16th, when he embarked on the warship Non-such with Lieutenant Colonel von Cochenhausen, Major du Buy, and Captain Phipps. Captain Griffith of this ship commanded the fleet on the voyage. The general’s suite, however, was assigned to the Elizabeth transport, where everyone lived comfortably. The two chaplains of the general’s staff remained in New York with General Clinton, as did also Brigade Major von Wilnowsky and his adjutant, Lieutenant Fuhrer. The corps at Kings Bridge consists of the following troops: 120 English artillerymen in the trenches thrown up before the seven forts above Kings Bridge; 50 Pioneers of Major Holland’s corps; the entire 17th Regiment of Dragoons; the 7th, 26th, 36th, and 38th Regiments under Major General Vaughan; then the following provincial battalions under Major General Governor Tryon of New York: one Fanning’s, one Browne’s, one Bayard’s, and De Lancey’s 2nd; then there were four companies of New Yorkers each 120 strong under Major General Smith; one battalion Köhler’s Hessian Grenadiers, one Prinz Carl, one Trüm-bach’s, one Stein’s, and one Wissenbach’s. On Long Island was De Lancey’s 1st battalion. The 300 provincials under Colonel Skinner were posted at the Elizabethtown ferry on Staten Island. On this island also, under the command of Brigadier General Campbell, were the 52nd English Regiment, one Bayreuth, the Waldeck Regiment, and 16 English artillerymen in the two main trenches. A battalion of Anspachers has also recently been ordered to march into the camp at Kings Bridge. At Paulus Hook are 600 provincials. All these troops, as well as the New York garrison, are under the command of General Clinton. At present Major General Jones is commandant of New York, for Major General Pigot has been dispatched hur-
riedly to Rhode Island to take over Major General Prescott's command. General Prescott seems to have selected poor quarters in Rhode Island, for he was captured again at the end of June.

On the 19th of July the fleet was ready to sail. All the Hessian troops who had participated in the Jersey expedition were, unfortunately, embarked much too early and had to ride at anchor before Staten Island for two weeks. Consequently, their store of fresh provisions diminished greatly, which was very unfortunate, for they were on board ship altogether five weeks with contrary winds and excessive heat. On the 20th the fleet weighed anchor. A little below Sandy Hook the transports formed in six divisions. Each division was commanded by a lieutenant of the navy and all were under sea-captain Bourmaster, who took his orders from and made his reports to the warship Nonsuch. The principal men-of-war sailed ahead of and along both sides of the fleet, which numbered 265 ships. They were: the frigate Liverpool, which led the fleet; then came the Eagle, 64 guns, on board which were the Howe brothers; behind the Eagle and to its right, the Augusta, 64 guns; to its left in the same relative position, the Raisonnable, 64 guns; in the center, right and left respectively, the Somerset, 64 guns, and the Isis, 50 guns. The last ship in the fleet was the Nonsuch, which had for its couriers the Swift and the Dispatch, both 16 guns. Nine frigates sailed around the fleet at some distance. Several of these were dispatched far out, but finally rejoined the fleet again. The daily thunderstorms did much damage to the ships. Lightning struck the masts of the transport Britannia, on which General Howe's entire suite had embarked, and also those of the Henry, carrying part of the horses of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons. On the former, two servants were lamed, and on the latter seven horses rendered unfit for duty. The wind was unfavorable all the way. The fleet spent three days before the mouth of the Delaware, plying to and fro. The frigates Roebuck and Fanny[?] are still stationed in the river near Reedy Point, beyond which the rebels have some fireships. Besides, they have many guns mounted on the right bank near the

1 Or Fanny? or Tanny? The Roebuck's sloop was named the Stanley; can Baurmeister have meant this? We should be very grateful to the readers of The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography for any corrections, and appeal to them for assistance in identifying the names questioned in the text.
entrance. During the voyage several prizes were taken on our left. Of these I know nothing certain, however. On the other hand, many rebel ships smartly escaped our best frigate. On the 9th of August the fleet finally reached the lowest point of Chesapeake Bay. At five o'clock in the evening, when we took the first sounding, we found sixty-two fathoms of water. From the 10th to the 12th the fleet ran into the bay with a moderate wind, sailing closer to Fort Henry than to Fort Charles. Both shores of Virginia were visible, but they were more distinct after the fleet was able to get on the right course. During the passage up the bay we sounded bottom at twenty-one and from sixteen to nine fathoms. On the 18th of August the fleet passed the broad Wicomico River, the point of which, called by the same name, is the border line between Virginia and Maryland. Where the river enters the bay it has a rather strong current, which was on our left. Finally, on the 22nd of August the fleet cast anchor between the Sassafras and Elk Rivers in water varying from nine to six and one-half fathoms. The warships were compelled to remain farther behind. On the 23rd and 24th we took soundings in the Elk River. Some people of Maryland, to the right of the fleet, brought fowl, fruits, and milk to several of our ships, for which they were well paid. Neither enemy ships nor rebels were in sight, though on the 17th of August we had seen and pursued an armed galley below Wicomico River. In the city of Annapolis on the left shore of Maryland we saw a provincial flag, but sailed past without firing at it. This city is situated in a valley not far from the shore. With field glasses we could distinctly make out the streets, a large church, and other new, beautiful buildings which belong to the tobacco manufacturers—so the pilots told us. On both shores were tobacco fields, a few grain fields, large pastures with cattle, and a great deal of woods. Already the water in the bay was completely sweet. The springs along the shores are clearer and colder than any in Germany. On the 25th we disembarked on the left bank of the Elk River, in Cecil County, the last county in Maryland. The grenadiers, the jägers, the light infantry, and the 1st artillery brigade were the first to go ashore. There was no interference at all. The people, who live in scattered houses, were amazed to see so many ships in a river where large transports had not been before. When they learned that they were English ships, they left their homes, their goods and chattels as well as their
cattle. In the first onrush the rigid orders against plundering were not strictly observed. This made General Howe sentence some to be hanged on the spot and others to be flogged within an inch of their lives. On the other hand, the Hessian troops under Colonel von Donop and Lieutenant Colonel von Wurmb were warmly thanked in the orders of the 28th for observing the necessary discipline in every way. On the 26th Lieutenant General von Knyphausen went ashore; also, enough waggons were unloaded for the horses the army had brought along. General Howe made his headquarters at Elk Ferry. A strange incident occurred on the 26th of August when a Pennsylvanian produced a new kind of protection to be signed by us. Many thousand copies had been printed in New York, both in English and in German. None of us had known of it, or previously given any. It has caused a thorough investigation to be started, and now a different kind of protection is given. It is, however, an ominous indication that the men at the head of the revolution receive advance information of our activities. General Howe intended to move forward with a part of the army on the 27th, but did not set out until four o'clock in the morning of the 28th. He took with him the following troops: (1) the dismounted jägers, who were preceded by a noncommissioned officer and twelve mounted jägers; (2) two battalions of light infantry, the Queen's Rangers and Ferguson's Corps (these are English chasseurs), the English grenadiers, and the 1st artillery brigade with ten guns; (3) the Hessian grenadiers, the 2nd artillery brigade with ten guns, the baggage belonging to the generals and staff officers, the hospital waggons, and one waggon with intrenching tools; (4) three companies from the 16th Regiment of Dragoons, all the dismounted dragoons of this regiment, the mounted and dismounted jägers; and lastly, the brigade of Foot Guards and the Scottish 71st Regiment. Quartermaster General Erskine posted this last regiment two to two and one-half miles from the old camp to the new, along the road to the Head of Elk or Iron Hill, in order to maintain communication with the rest of the army, which remained behind under his Excellency Lieutenant General von Knyphausen and consisted of the 3rd artillery brigade with ten guns, Major General Grey's English infantry brigade, Major General Agnew's, Major General Stirn's, and the rest of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons. On the 30th of August at five o'clock in the
morning, Major General Grey's brigade broke camp and, furnished with two days' provisions, marched in the direction of Elk Town. General von Knyphausen, who has been ordered to follow the army, will depart shortly.

With the greatest respect, I remain
Your Lordship's
Most obedient servant
Baurmeister

Elk Ferry Landing
Cecil County, Maryland
Aug. 31, 1777

BAURMEISTER TO VON JUNGKENN
[October 17 (?), 1777]

To the Honorable Colonel von Jungkenn.

I have not been able to write for some time, for we embarked at New York on July 16th and after a very difficult passage finally landed August 26th on the east bank of the Elk River far above Turkey Point in Cecil County, Maryland. During most of the voyage we had contrary wind and intense heat, which was accompanied almost daily by terrific thunderstorms, causing much suffering among men and horses and damage to the masts and sails.

On the 6th of July General Clinton returned from England and on the 14th relieved General Knyphausen at Kings Bridge. The latter went to New York and embarked on the warship Nonsuch with Lieutenant Colonel von Cochenhausen, Major du Buy, and Captain Phipps. The rest of the suite and I went on board the Elizabeth. General Howe joined Admiral Howe on the Eagle, and General Howe's suite went on board the Britannia.

On July 20th the fleet, consisting of 264 sail, weighed anchor before Staten Island, sailed past Sandy Hook, and formed in six divisions, each commanded by a lieutenant of the navy, the whole being under the command of Captain Bourmaster, who received and gave out all orders.

The Commodore, Captain Griffith of the Nonsuch, whose ship sailed astern of the fleet, had at his command two sloops of war, the
Swift and the Dispatch. The Eagle, preceded by the frigate Liverpool, 32 guns, led the fleet. Four men-of-war, the Raisonnable, Somerset, Augusta, and Isis kept in the center, while nine frigates circled around the fleet at some distance. These frigates took some prizes.

We had the following troops with us: one company of English riflemen under Captain Ferguson, one provincial battalion (Wemys), two battalions of English grenadiers and two battalions of light infantry, the Hessian and Anspach jägers, three Hessian grenadier battalions under Colonel von Donop, the three battalions of the 71st Highland Regiment, the brigade of English Guards, the 1st English brigade (General Cornwallis), the 2nd (General Grant), the 3rd (General Grey), and the 4th (Brigadier General Agnew), and General Stirn’s Hessian brigade consisting of the Leib Regiment, Mirbach’s, Donop’s, and the Combined Battalion under Colonel von Loos. Then we had three artillery brigades with their trains and one waggon of tents for each company. There were also five hospital ships in the fleet, three of which have recently taken in the Hessian sick, at present about 300. During our passage 27 men and 170 horses died, and about 150 horses were disembarked totally unfit for duty—a natural consequence of spending more than five weeks on a voyage which in good weather can be made in six or eight days. Moreover, the troops were ordered to embark on the transports immediately after the Jersey expedition and so had lain before Staten Island more than two weeks.

When on July 28th we reached the mouth of the Delaware, we all supposed that we would run up into it and land, but the Roebuck frigate brought the news from the river that two English frigates had ascended as far as Reedy Point and anchored there to keep watch above the point, that they found a rebel fireship stationed there, and that they ascertained, moreover, that the banks could be easily defended by batteries so that landing there would be extremely hazardous. Hence, on August 1st we set out for Chesapeake Bay, which we reached on the 9th. With Cape Henry to the west and Cape Charles to the east, we ran into the bay on the 14th. On the 18th of August the fleet passed the mouth of the Wicomico River, which separates Virginia from Maryland. Tobacco plantations, pasture-lands, cultivated fields, and large woods border the
shores as far as Annapolis, a city beautifully situated on the west coast. Adjacent to this city are two high batteries flying rebel flags. Many houses are scattered throughout this region. The fleet sailed past, and no boats were permitted to put out for shore.

On the 22nd of August the ships cast anchor in the middle of the mouth of the Elk River in four and one-half fathoms. Because of shallow water the men-of-war were compelled to remain fourteen English miles behind. On the 23rd and 24th the Elk River was sounded, and on the 25th and 26th a landing was effected under cover of the frigates Roebuck and Vigilant without the slightest interference.

Elk Ferry was made headquarters. Most of the inhabitants had fled from their homes, taking with them the best of their belongings; but they had also destroyed a great deal and driven their cattle into the woods. In spite of the strictest orders, marauding could not at first be entirely prevented. Several men in the most advanced English troops were caught by General Howe. One of these marauders was hanged and six others were flogged within an inch of their lives.

Colonel von Donop and Lieutenant Colonel von Wurmb were praised in the orders of the 27th of August for maintaining the best discipline among their troops. General von Knyphausen made ten men of Stirn's brigade run the gauntlet for some excesses. The best order and discipline have now been almost entirely restored. I must also boast to your Excellency of the especially good harmony existing between the Commander-in-Chief and General von Knyphausen, from which the entire army derives much satisfaction.

Our land operations now begin:

Early in the morning of August 28th General Howe with all the light troops, two brigades of artillery, the 1st and 2nd English infantry brigades, the English Guards, the 71st Regiment, and half of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons, dismounted, set out on their march and took a position between Elk Town and Iron Hill. The rest of the army remained behind under the command of General von Knyphausen. The 71st Regiment was posted by battalions at strategic places between the two encampments to maintain communications.

On Iron Hill General Howe's troops encountered about 600 rebels, whom they scattered, and in the Elk River about sixteen enemy boats were taken. The greater part of their cargoes, which
consisted of tobacco, corn, coffee, sugar, and flour, was distributed among the army, but the flour and corn were delivered to the English commissariat. On this day we learned that on the 24th of August the enemy army had marched through Philadelphia 8500 strong with a vanguard of over 2000, that the said army was then at Wilmington, that three brigades under General Stirling had taken position at Christiana Bridge, and that an advanced post of this corps, namely, 560 volunteers commanded by Brigadier General Maxwell, was occupying the ford across the little Gosch River below Iron Hill. Therefore, General Howe ordered the 3rd English infantry brigade under General Grey, the rest of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons, and the 1st battalion of the 71st Regiment to cross the Elk at Elk Ferry early in the morning of August 30th and encamp at Cecil Church, approximately four English miles from the right bank of the Elk River.

On the 31st General von Knyphausen followed the same road with the rest of the troops. He joined General Grey at Cecil Church, where we made camp. The houses were empty here, too. The cattle were driven in and delivered to the English commissariat, which had already acquired a large cattle and sheep park, wherefrom it furnished the army twice weekly with fresh meat, instead of salt provisions, in addition to the flour and good rum.

On the 2nd of September Lieutenant General von Knyphausen proceeded with his corps to Mill Dam in accordance with the orders given the troops on September 1st: "Tomorrow morning by five o'clock camp must be broken and the regiments at the front ready to march. The old pickets will have been previously withdrawn. The new pickets of the English regiments will make up the vanguard and take along two of Lieutenant Willson’s 3-pounders; then will follow the English dragoons with one noncommissioned officer and six men marching at the head of the pickets; then all the quartermasters and officers' men from the battalion of the 71st Regiment; then the 3rd and 4th English infantry brigades by half companies; then the Hessian Leib Regiment, Mirbach’s, the Combined Battalion, and half of von Donop’s Regiment, then the baggage (the

*Gosch: one of Baurmeister’s ways of spelling Cooch. Perhaps the small tributary of the Christiana just south of Iron Hill. We are much indebted to Mr. Edward W. Cooch of Cooch’s Bridge, Delaware, for helping us ascertain the identity of this river.
waggons of the generals first and the rest in the same order as the regiments). The baggage will be followed by the cattle, and the guards assigned to it will keep the drovers in order. The Hessian pickets will patrol along both sides of the baggage and cattle, keeping particularly close watch on the right. Lieutenant Colonel Heymell will form the rear with the other half of von Donop's Regiment, which is to be preceded by Lieutenant Willson's two remaining 3-pounders. Everyone is warned against setting fire to houses, barns, or other buildings along the line of march. At each building a double post will be left, which is to be relieved by each successive battalion until the rear guard. In addition, one officer and fifteen dragoons will follow the rear guard.” This marching order was maintained up to Mill Dam. The dragoons preceding the vanguard fell in with some Maryland militia, some of whom they took prisoners.

Early in the morning of September 3rd, Lieutenant General von Knyphausen's corps set out from Mill Dam and Carson's Tavern and marched to Aiken's Tavern in Pencader Hundred, joining the army on the high land beyond this tavern. General Howe left Elk Town on this morning, leaving General Grant behind with four battalions. The enemy had made an attempt on the outposts which had been sent out from Elk Town and stationed under Iron Hill, but they were driven back with a few wounded on both sides. General Howe's vanguard consisted of the Hessian jägers on foot under Lieutenant Colonel von Wurmb. They encountered the enemy outposts at Cooch's Bridge and attacked them. On the far side of the river, on the heights along the main Philadelphia road, the rebels were said to have many strong posts. Captain von Wreden gained a patch of woods on the enemy's left flank, from which he made a spirited attack. When his jägers cannonaded their front with some amusettes and charged with bayonets, the enemy withdrew in the direction of Christiana Bridge, leaving behind thirty killed—among them five officers—but taking their wounded with them. General Cornwallis and Colonel von Donop posted pickets on the terrain vacated by the enemy and occupied the road to Christiana Bridge or Philadelphia and the one to Fisher's Mill and Newark. The army went into camp at Aiken's Tavern, which was used as headquarters.
General Howe expressed his satisfaction with the good behaviour of the vanguard in general orders as follows:

"The spirited manner in which Lieutenant Colonel von Wurmb opposed the advanced corps of the main body of the rebel troops deserves the special acknowledgments of the Commanding General."3

This advanced enemy corps is said to have consisted of 650 men under General Maxwell and was detached from the three brigades stationed at Christiana Bridge, whither General Stirling is said to have marched from Wilmington as early as the 25th of August. General Washington himself is reported to be at Wilmington with the main army, the strength of which is reputed to be 15,000 regulars, not counting the militia under Generals Armstrong and Potter and said to number another 15,000 men.

The army remained encamped through September 7th, during which time all tents and other heavy baggage as well as the sick were taken to Elk Town and put on transports, so that the provision train could be strengthened, which, on the 8th of September when the army set out in three divisions, consisted of 276 waggons loaded with rum, flour, and salt meat.

When General Howe learned that the enemy would not remain long at Wilmington and had withdrawn all but fifty men from Christiana Bridge, and when he had obtained further information of the real strength of the enemy's force from a captured German officer named von Uechtritz, he set out with the army on September 8th to march via Newark to the heights called Society Hills. These hills are situated this side of New Garden Meeting House at the intersection of the Newark-Lancaster road with the Chester road. The enemy had not expected this move and were compelled to quit all their posts in the neighborhood of Wilmington. Leaving behind one brigade of Maryland militia, they crossed Brandywine Creek at Chadd's Ford. The main army occupied the hills on the far side of the creek, while a detachment under Brigadier General Greene, composed of a thousand volunteers from the regular battalions, among them perhaps fifty light dragoons, remained this side of the creek taking post as far as Welch's Tavern, four English miles from Chadd's Ford.

*Howe Orderly Book (MS), William L. Clements Library, gives the following: "The spirited manner in which Lieutenant Colonel von Wurmb & the officers and men yesterday engaged & defeated the chosen advanced corps of the enemy deserves the highest encomiums & calls for the General's fullest acknowledgements."
At one o'clock in the afternoon of September 9th, after General Howe had obtained sufficient information about the enemy, the army set out on the march in two columns. The Commanding General remained with the first column, which was led by General Cornwallis and marched about two miles on the right of the second column led by Lieutenant General von Knyphausen. He gave such marching orders that both columns were to arrive at the place of rendezvous, namely, Welch's Tavern, at the same time. Lieutenant General von Knyphausen's left column, in the middle of which was the entire provision train and the heavy artillery and cattle, marched along the New Garden road through continuous narrow defiles. The van reached Kennet Square several hours after nightfall. General Howe, who with the van of the first column had arrived at the Quaker church in Marlborough Township, did not think it advisable to proceed further and ordered the army to halt in column formation. He posted the grenadiers between the two columns and the 3rd English infantry brigade to the rear of the second column and had this column's provision train and baggage drawn up at Kennet Square. All this was accomplished in a steady downpour, and by the time it was finished and the rear guard had finally come up, day was breaking.

On the 10th of September the army pitched a regular camp in two lines at Kennet Square. The Hessian jägers and the light troops occupied the approaches, but they saw none of the enemy save some light dragoons. The enemy patrols could advance further than ours because they were known and feared by the inhabitants, whereas ours risked being shot from ambush or cut off at every house, bush, woods, and fence—which has happened more than once.

We learned that the rebels, after much discussion between Washington and the other generals, especially one Du Coudray, have changed their position on the hills beyond Brandywine Creek, so that their right wing extends to Terrenton* and Edward Brand's mill, and their left to Dilworth, with the Brandywine Creek in front and the main Chester road in the rear; that they have thrown up batteries covering both fords of the creek at Chadd's Ford; that four deputies from Congress have approved this position and charged

* Cf. infra, p. 408. Both times this word is used, it is clearly and unmistakably written "Terrenton" in Roman script.
* Brinton's?
General Washington to defend it to the utmost; and furthermore, that they sought to admonish the common soldiers to remain steadfast by all sorts of chimera. They have even ordered religious services to be held in each battalion and the clergy to exhort the men to believe that the British army, though parading under the name of parliamentary regulars, is made up of nothing but discontented stragglers, that this army is so weak that it was compelled to evacuate the Jerseys last June with great loss, that in desperation it was now making a last attempt to maintain a foothold in America (for which reason it embarked on ships) and, being repelled in the Delaware, found it necessary to sail into Chesapeake Bay and land on the east bank of the Elk in Maryland, that it had lost more than one third of its men through sickness, and that nothing was more certain than that the small remainder would now be annihilated—the fruit of their last victory. The result will be seen:

At sunrise on September 11th, in accordance with an order received the previous day, the army set out in two columns to march along two different roads. General Howe remained with the column on the left, which was led by General Cornwallis. Lieutenant General von Knyphausen commanded the column on the right.

Cornwallis's column consisted of the Hessian Jäger Corps, both mounted and dismounted, the light infantry, all the grenadiers of the army, the British Guards, the 3rd and 4th brigades of English infantry, the 3rd brigade of heavy artillery, and half of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons.

The column under Lieutenant General von Knyphausen was made up of Captain Ferguson's British Riflemen, one battalion of Queen's Rangers, the 71st (Highland) Regiment, which consisted of three battalions, the 1st and 2nd English brigades under General Grant, General Stirn's brigade (i.e., the Leib Regiment, Donop's, Mirbach's, and the Combined Battalion), the other half of the 16th Regiment of Dragoons, two brigades of heavy artillery, the entire artillery and provision train, the baggage, and the cattle.

The 1st and 2nd Battalion of the Scottish Highlanders flanked both sides of the train, while the 3rd Battalion formed the rear guard.

This column marched along the main Chester road, which, between Welch's Tavern and Chadd's Ford, has many defiles between
hills and woods. When our vanguard, i.e., the Riflemen and the Queen's Rangers, arrived at Welch's Tavern, it encountered the first enemy troops. It drove them back and became master of the defile without delaying the march of the column. The skirmishing continued to the last hills of Chadd's Ford. Heretofore the enemy had been repulsed by our vanguard alone, but now the engagement became more serious. The van had arrived at a place where the road passes through some swampy land. On both sides of this lowland are hills and woods, and beyond it a road turns off to the left from the main road and runs through this lowland for about half a mile. This road, which leads to a ford on Brandywine Creek, was enfiladed by an enemy battery situated beyond the creek. All the woods were full of enemy troops. Captain Ferguson posted his Riflemen behind a house beyond the lowland and was supported by a hundred men under Captain Le Long from Stirn's brigade. The English 49th Regiment, two heavy guns, and two 3-pounders were detached to the right of the column and occupied an elevation directly above the Riflemen. In the meantime the Queen’s Rangers had proceeded to the left and after a short but very rapid musketry-fire, supported by the 23rd English Regiment, which had been detached to the left of the column, quickly drove the rebels out of their woods and straight across the lowland. Under cover of a continuous cannonade, the 28th English Regiment went off to the right of the column, and soon the rebels, who had been shouting “Hurrah” and firing briskly from a gorge in front of us, were quickly put to flight. Meanwhile the Riflemen and the Queen’s Rangers had also advanced toward the left flank of the enemy, who were constantly yielding ground. The 28th, 23rd, 55th, and 40th English Regiments, the Leib Regiment, and Mirbach's were formed in line on the height beyond the lowland and the road to the ford; the Combined Battalion and Donop's took position in column formation along this road, and the 5th, 49th, 27th, and 4th English Regiments this side of the lowland on the heights along the creek. All these movements were covered by the gunfire of the English artillery, the various pieces being mounted with all possible haste in strategic places and on high ground. The enemy's fire was also heavy, especially that from the battery of four guns and one howitzer situated beyond the ford. However, though the balls and grapeshot were well aimed and fell right among us,
this cannonade had but little effect—partly because the battery was placed too low. We pushed our light troops and outposts close to the creek, for the enemy on this side were completely dispersed. Then we straightened our line, posted one battalion of the 71st Regiment and the Queen’s Dragoons\(^6\) on the height on our right flank where the enemy troops had held a fleche and the baggage under cover of the two other battalions of the 71st Regiment on the rising ground where we first skirmished with the enemy. These movements were completed by half past ten, and Lieutenant General von Knyp- hausen thought it wise to maintain this position until the left column should begin its attack upon the enemy’s right wing, when he would attempt to cross the creek. The musketry ceased entirely. Our cannon fired from time to time, each shot being answered by the enemy; but the purpose of our gunfire was only to advise the second column of our position.

The enemy apparently thought that we were manoeuvring to approach their formidable position and perhaps thinking of fording the creek. Hence, they directed all their attention to the fords between them and us, especially to one very strategically situated, in front of which the 4th English Regiment was posted and which was covered by two guns on the nearest hill.

However, toward half past one, the patrols of their right wing must have informed them of the approach of the second column. We saw several battalions, some artillery, and some troops of dragoons file to the right to reinforce their right wing and other changes in the line being made to give the necessary defensive strength to their left wing, which had been weakened by the removal of some of these troops. Finally, towards four o’clock we heard the attack of the left column. Lieutenant General von Knyphausen gave orders to advance; the artillery began a fearful cannonade; the 1st Battalion of the 71st Regiment pushed toward the ford and crossed the stream; it was followed by the Riflemen and the Queen’s Rangers, the 4th English Regiment led by his Excellency General von Knyphausen himself, the 5th and all the English regiments of this brigade according to their rank, and lastly, Stirn’s brigade. The crossing was effected on our right wing, about 250 paces from the enemy’s battery, which

\(^6\) The Sixteenth (or the Queen’s) Regiment of (Light) Dragoons.
lay a little to the left of the ford. After crossing, the troops attacked them furiously, partly with the bayonet. The enemy’s left wing began to fall back and we took the battery. Our regiments gained one height after another as the enemy withdrew. They withstood one more rather severe attack behind some houses and ditches in front of their left wing. Finally, we saw the entire enemy line and four guns, which fired frequently, drawn up on another height in front of a dense forest, their right wing resting on the Chester road. By the time it grew dark, the van of the left column and General Howe had joined us. General Howe made Dilworth his headquarters. The British army, complete masters of the so-called Brandywine Hills, which the enemy had had infinite hope of holding and believed to be impregnable, took position on them in excellent formation. The enemy, however, gained the road to Chester in considerable confusion. Had not the darkness favored their retreat, we might have come into possession of much artillery, munitions, and horses.

The march and attack of the left column was as follows: It set out on its march the same time as our column. Two miles from camp it fell in with a hostile detachment, which it repulsed. The march to James Trimble’s ford, where it arrived at eleven o’clock, was uneventful. Here, eight miles from the old camp, it forded one of the two forks of the Brandywine and two miles further, the other at Jeffers’ Ford. Between the east and west Brandywine fords it halted until all had crossed. At Birmingham Meeting House the column was to reform and advance upon the enemy’s right flank and rear. It was then about two o’clock in the afternoon and the Meeting House lies seven miles from Chadd’s Ford, where Lieutenant General von Knyphausen’s column crossed the Brandywine. Meanwhile, the enemy’s position had been reconnoitred by advance patrols. On the hill beyond the Meeting House they had seen a corps of about 1000 men and a party of enemy cavalry somewhat nearer our left wing. They had, furthermore, observed that a corps of 2000 men and five guns was making for these hills in great haste to join the 1000 men already posted there. Then several more battalions followed. They formed quite a formidable front bordered with cannon, on the right wing of which there appeared a little later the van of another column coming from the Dilworth road. General Howe dispatched some of the Hessian jägers close to the aforesaid Meeting House, where they
occupied an advantageous post. During this time the troops had been formed in three columns for an attack:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEFT COLUMN</th>
<th>CENTER COLUMN</th>
<th>RIGHT COLUMN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th English infantry brigade</td>
<td>All the dismounted jägers</td>
<td>Brigade of Guards English and Hessian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 battalions of light cavalry infantry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2 battalions of English grenadiers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 battalions of Hessian grenadiers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Artillery</td>
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The 3rd English infantry brigade stayed behind to cover the baggage. At four o'clock in the afternoon the columns advanced to attack, the center column along the main road, and the other two on both sides through valleys and woods. When they had come close enough, they formed in line and advanced upon the enemy, who received them with a heavy fire of cannon and musketry. Our men, however, made a spirited attack with their bayonets and drove them back into the woods, following close upon their heels. Colonel von Donop with the Hessian grenadiers supported the English brigade of Guards throughout, as he had been ordered to do. Three companies of light infantry threw themselves against the flank of the enemy's right wing, which seemed to be outflanking our line, and after turning it back, rejoined their battalion. The Hessian grenadiers joined the English grenadiers in the line. General Agnew, however, in spite of great efforts, was unable to align completely the fourth brigade forming the left wing, because of the rough terrain. Thus the left flank of the 2nd English Grenadier Battalion was unsupported for some time and was compelled to fall back a little before the enemy's attack. However, when General Agnew did arrive to support this battalion, the enemy withdrew all along the line from one height to another. Though they fought stubbornly all the way, they were compelled to escape through Terrenton towards Chester. By five o'clock in the evening the entire column had gained a victory and advanced far enough to join our column on the Brandywine hills at nightfall. The enemy's loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners
is said to be more than one thousand men. We had about five hundred killed and wounded in the two columns. Our first column captured six brass cannon, and the second, four more and one howitzer. The howitzer had been cast in Philadelphia in 1777, and eight of the cannon were French 4-pound Couleuvrines made at Douay in 1737. The other two were new Hessian 3-pounders which the rebels had taken at Trenton, one of which had since been rebored to make a 6-pounder of it. We also obtained possession of some munition wagons, a quantity of muskets, most of which were made in the French style and had, perhaps, been furnished by French factories, and many intrenching tools.

On the morning of September 12th we buried the dead and transported the wounded to Dilworth, where we found a flour magazine, from which the army was provisioned for two days.

Major General Grant marched with the Queen’s Rangers, the 1st and 2nd English infantry brigades, and three troops of dragoons to within a half mile of Chester without meeting any of the enemy. General Sullivan was posted behind Chester Creek with a corps of 2000 men, and the main body of the enemy had gone beyond Darby in its retreat. Our army pitched camp so that the right wing extended to the lower Chadd’s ford, and the left to Dilworth, where the grenadiers covered headquarters. The Hessian jägers, however, were posted behind Dilworth. Toward evening the baggage train and provision wagons joined the army after fording the Brandywine. The 71st Regiment, which had covered them and which, having been heretofore composed of three battalions, was now formed into two, marched to Wilmington, dispersed some enemy militia, and found seven iron guns in a trench. When this came to the knowledge of General Howe, who had been assured by Admiral Howe that he would have several ships at Wilmington on September 15th at the latest, Colonel von Loos and the Combined Battalion were ordered to escort all the sick and wounded to Wilmington early on the 14th, to establish a hospital there, and to remain until further orders. This was accomplished without the least interference, in spite of the fact that the road through Kennet Square was made rather unsafe by scattered hostile parties. Each regiment had given three waggons for the transport of the invalids; on these von Loos’s men loaded all the flour found at Wilmington and in the houses along the road and on
the 15th of September again joined the army, which was short of flour and rum, but had fresh meat in abundance. General Howe gave permission to the rebels to send their own doctors and surgeons to care for their wounded.

On the 16th of September the army broke camp and took the road to the Turk's Head, whither patrols of Hessian jägers had advanced from Dilworth. This was also the objective of General Cornwallis, who was approaching from the Chester district. He had joined General Grant on the 14th with the English grenadiers and light infantry, having taken the road past Coob's Meeting House, where his patrols captured two enemy staff officers. After both columns had effected a junction, General Howe ordered General von Kniphhausen to advance to the Boot Tavern. The army was to encamp beyond the White Horse on the Valley Hills along the Lancaster-Philadelphia highway. In the meantime the rebels had continued their retreat as far as Germantown, but on the 14th had started out again and passed the Schuylkill at Swedes Ford and Yellow Springs. They had left their heavy baggage and their hospital behind at this last crossing, and encamped at the White Horse. Generals Wayne and Maxwell with about 2000 men have been detached forward to observe our movements between Chester and Dilworth. This enemy corps arrived towards one o'clock on the 16th in front of our right column at a time when both of our columns were making a halt behind the Boot Tavern and while Colonel von Donop was reconnoitring the road in front with a part of the jägers of the vanguard. Colonel von Donop was almost cut off, but joined the vanguard again with all possible speed after skilfully executing some manoeuvres to his left. All the jägers, mounted and dismounted, and the Hessian grenadiers formed in a few minutes, left the column, and advanced in line to the right against the rebels, who were posted on high ground covered with a cornfield and orchards. The jägers, ducking behind the fences around the fields and woods, had an opportunity to demonstrate to the enemy their superior marksman ship and their skill with the amusettes, and the enemy, who soon retired to a dense forest, left behind many killed and wounded. I wish I could give a description of the downpour which began during

7 Cobbs?
the engagement and continued until the next morning. It came down so hard that in a few moments we were drenched and sank in mud up to our calves. However, as General Howe and Lord Cornwallis had also moved to the right, the enemy detained us on our march and thus succeeded to some extent in their designs. General Washington probably realized by this time that he would be unable to take the open road to Lancaster with his entire army. He therefore recrossed the Schuylkill and took position at Swedes Ford, leaving General Sullivan with six brigades and a suitable number of artillery at Yellow Springs. Congress left Philadelphia and, insofar as the new constitution permitted, took along all well-to-do inhabitants, mostly Quakers. The enemy army hospital was established at Bethlehem.

On the 17th of September General Cornwallis went into camp at the White Horse. Lieutenant General von Knyphausen's column also marched to this place. After a respite of two hours, the entire army continued its march another six miles and encamped on the Valley Hills in West Whiteland Township, Chester County. Tredyffrin was headquarters. The Hessian Jäger Corps covered the flank of the right wing along the roads which lead eastward to Swedes Ford and Philadelphia and northward to Valley Forge, whither the 1st battalion of light infantry and the English grenadiers and Guards had previously been detached. Here they had taken a flour magazine of 4,000 tons, many iron implements as well as other goods like soap and candles. Over 20,000 broadaxes and a great quantity of horse-shoes and horseshoe nails were distributed to the army. They also found many iron cannon balls of various sizes; they kept some of these and scattered the rest. Finally, they destroyed the smithy and all the tools.

Early in the morning of the 21st of September the army got under way again, making a halt in its old camp. The Hessian Leib Regiment and von Donop's were posted at various places along the Philadelphia road to cover the army's march. In the meantime General Sullivan had detached General Wayne from Yellow Springs via the White Horse to harass our left flank while marching. However, General Grey with the 3rd brigade and the 2nd battalion of light infantry had set out at ten o'clock of the evening of the 20th to surprise this corps. He found it at half past twelve at night. The enemy had their guns in hand ready to march. General Grey, having
ordered his men not to load their muskets, attacked their right wing with the bayonet. His men deployed so fast that they massacred it. The enemy artillery, which was already hitched up, succeeded in escaping with most of the munition waggons along the road to the White Horse, and the rest of the enemy followed, but in such confusion that many threw away their muskets. Some 100 men were bayonetted, some 70 wounded, 82 taken prisoners, and 10 waggons were captured. General Grey rejoined the army after this coup. In the daytime General Howe sent troops of dragoons to the place where the encounter had taken place, with orders to destroy all the enemy’s abandoned muskets—which numbered about one thousand. The wounded were taken to nearby houses. General Washington was advised of this by a flag of truce and given permission to send surgeons to dress their wounds. General Wayne retired across the Schuylkill before sunrise with the rest of his men, while General Sullivan left Yellow Springs and joined General Washington’s army, which is posted behind Swedes Ford on Schwamp Creek. Our army was not molested on its march on this day. It crossed Valley Creek at the Forge, where the right wing took position; the rest of the line extended past the Bull's Head Tavern, across Pickering Creek and as far as French Creek, with the Schuylkill in front. This region is in Charlestown Township, Chester County.

Towards noon on September 22nd our right wing attempted to cross the Schuylkill at Fatland Ford. After firing a few cannon shots the enemy withdrew from the opposite bank, and the English Guards, a battalion of light infantry, six guns from the park, and twenty-five dragoons took post on the other side of the ford. Colonel von Donop, on our left wing, was also ordered to attempt to cross the Schuylkill at Scheiffs Ford towards five o’clock in the evening. Captain Lorrey with twenty horse and Captain von Wreede with sixty dismounted jägers crossed the river, while four fieldpieces cannonaded the enemy posted on the opposite bank. Captain von Westerhagen followed with a hundred grenadiers, while another hundred grenadiers under Captain Schimmelpfennig remained behind to support them in case of need. The enemy deserted their post

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*Schwamp Creek: clearly and unmistakably written in Roman script. Does Baurmeister mean Stony Run or the Schuylkill?*  
*Gordon's Ford.*
and withdrew into a woods, whence they marched during the night to join General Washington's army. One mounted jäger was slightly wounded, as were also Captain Lorrey's horse and the horses of two other jägers.

On the night of the 23rd of September at moonrise the army began its march, defiling to the right to Fatland Ford and there crossing the Schuylkill. The jägers and grenadiers recrossed at Scheff's Ford without being further annoyed by the enemy and joined the left wing of the army, which, in a split column, had crossed before eight o'clock in the morning. General Grant, who had remained behind with an English infantry brigade to cover the baggage, artillery, and provisions train, then crossed the river, too, and the army continued its march till three o'clock in the afternoon when it arrived at Norriton and made camp—seventeen English miles from Philadelphia.

On the 25th of September the army, moving in two columns, advanced as far as Germantown, five English miles from Philadelphia. The right wing extended through the town toward Frankford Creek and the left as far as the Wissahickon. The Hessian Jäger Corps is posted by a stone bridge over the latter as an outpost toward the Schuylkill.

At eight o'clock on the morning of September 26th Lord Cornwallis set out for Philadelphia with two English and two Hessian grenadier battalions (von Linsing's and von Lengerke's), six 12-pounders, and four howitzers and arrived at eleven. He posted strong guards in the central part of the city, a battalion of English grenadiers below it on the Delaware, and above it along the Schuylkill, von Linsing's Battalion, the other English grenadier battalion, and von Lengerke's. The artillery was divided between these last two posts. Two enemy frigates, which have never been to sea and are said to have only part of their complements and no guns, have gone up the Delaware to Bristol along with some other boats, while two other frigates, the Delaware, 28 guns, and the Province, 32 guns, have anchored close to the city. Philadelphia is rather a lovely city of considerable size and is laid out with parallel streets. The public squares are beautiful. For the most part, ordinary houses are moderately large and built of brick in the Dutch style. Classical architec-

ture and its embellishments are met with only in the churches and in a few public buildings, of which the city hall, where Congress has been holding its sessions, is one of the most noteworthy. The city is very charmingly situated in level, fertile country on the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. At present it is only sparsely populated, because many inhabitants left with the enemy army, but there are still many people left, especially Quakers. Commerce is increasing again considerably, for merchants receive cash for their goods, and paper money no longer circulates.

On the 27th of September the two frigates anchored near the city, and the *Fly*, a sloop of eight guns, cannonaded the battery of two 12-pounders which we had thrown up, but without effect. Our battery did enough damage to the *Delaware* frigate to make her strike her sails, while the *Province* and the *Fly* made for Bristol. Then a row-galley loaded with ammunition confronted our battery. She was immediately cannonaded, and her masts were so shot to pieces that when she came near the *Delaware* frigate, her crew was compelled to leave her and escape in boats to the Jersey coast. However, we captured the crew of the *Delaware* frigate and manned her with a lieutenant and fifty men who had disembarked in Philadelphia from the *Roebuck*, which had come up from Chester. The *Delaware* now serves to cover the city and observe other hostile vessels.

On the night of the 28-29th of September the 1st English Grenadier Battalion, the 42nd, and 10th Regiments under the command of Colonel Stirling crossed over to the Jerseys to capture the fort at Billingsport across from Mud Island. At the approach of our troops the rebels vacated the fort, abandoning eleven spiked iron cannon and leaving five killed and thirteen wounded, and retreated to Mud Island in the Delaware.

On the 30th of September two battalions of the 71st Regiment left Wilmington to occupy Chester, where large quantities of provisions were unloaded from the ships and transported overland to Philadelphia, since our ships could not pass the stockade built by the enemy in the Delaware at Mud Island and covered by a battery on it.

On October 2nd we established a complete bakery at Philadelphia. We learned from enemy deserters that on September 28th Gen-

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eral Washington, who was stationed with his army at Pottstown, ordered a feu de joie because General Burgoyne had been severely beaten by General Gates at Stillwater. Moreover, he is said to have distributed rum to all his troops and started the rumor that he would attack our army. On October 1st, after he had been reinforced with eight battalions of fresh militia from Virginia and all the troops which had been posted at the magazines between Reading and Lancaster, he marched to Norriton.

October 4th. General Washington with his whole army set out before sundown yesterday on his march to surprise our army at Germantown at sunrise. He detached General Potter with 2000 men and two guns to take the Philadelphia road this side of the Schuylkill and attack our army's left wing on Wissahickon Creek, where the Hessian jäger picket had its outpost beyond the bridge. General Washington with the main body of his army followed the road from Norriton to Germantown as far as Chestnut Hill, two miles beyond Beggars Town, where he halted towards midnight. He ordered General Wayne to march with one column to the left toward the Abington road and proceed along it and enter the center of Germantown at daybreak. This town is five English miles long. General Washington then continued his march to Beggars Town where he arrived towards three o'clock in the morning. Here he made another halt to allow the troops detached to the right and left to gain their ground. Shortly before sunrise a Hessian jäger patrol from our left wing encountered 300 enemy troops one English mile from our most advanced outpost, and by daybreak we were convinced of the actual approach of the enemy army. It was so foggy on this morning that one could hardly see fifty paces. Meanwhile the enemy had driven back the advanced pickets of the 2nd battalion of light infantry posted between Germantown and Beggars Town. General Washington had so deployed his own column that one part would enter Germantown on the left, the second on the right, and the center by the street running through the city; thus he could attack our army along its entire front. General Wayne was to proceed by way of the Abington road and fall upon our right flank. The center column attacked the 2nd battalion of light infantry with such vigor and superior strength that it was compelled to withdraw and leave behind one gun. Colonel Musgrave, who was posted a little further to the
rear with the 40th Regiment under orders to support the light infantry in case of attack, then advanced. But seeing the light infantry, continually charged by the enemy, withdraw quickly toward Germantown and himself in danger of being cut off by the enemy columns deploying to the right and left, he resolved to throw himself and his regiment into a stone house on the right side of the street. Having accomplished this, he barricaded the doors and windows on the ground floor, the windows having strong shutters. On this floor he posted as many men as were necessary with orders to receive with the bayonet all those who might gain an entrance to the house, should an opening be made. With the rest of his men he went to the second floor, where he fired with great effect upon the troops now completely surrounding the house. However, the enemy, determined to make a strong attack, cannonaded the building with four 6-pounders. This and our especially courageous defence delayed their advance an hour and a half. Although cannon balls had torn both outside doors open, the bayonets kept the enemy from entering. In this attack they lost over 100 men killed and 150 wounded. By this time the entire army was in motion and formed as follows: The 1st and 2nd brigades, leaving the Abington road on their right, marched toward the road leading to the Frankford Creek bridge. The 3rd and 4th brigades and the Hessian Leib Regiment advanced from their emplacement and took position in Germantown. Von Minnigerode’s Grenadier Battalion remained at its post on the left to support the jägers, who were to be reinforced by von Linsing’s Grenadier Battalion from Philadelphia as soon as the English grenadier battalion advanced to strengthen the right wing. Von Donop’s Regiment marched a little to the front and to the right toward the town to maintain communication with the left wing and support the pickets of the 3rd and 4th brigades, who were still this side of Germantown, and also the Leib Regiment and von Donop. The enemy, who had already penetrated far into Germantown and were firing from gardens and behind houses, which here are set far apart, were now attacked so fiercely that they gave up the attack on the house defended by Colonel Musgrave, abandoned the cannon they had captured from the light infantry, and made their retreat through the several streets in great haste. General Potter and his column had come so close upon our left wing that, while our right was making its attack, he rushed upon the jäger picket at the bridge so furiously
that it was compelled to fall back a little; but after a company of jägers had advanced to its support, our men regained their post this side of the bridge. General Potter withdrew in the greatest haste and was pursued three English miles by Lieutenant Colonel von Wurmb.

General Howe pursued the enemy with the right wing along the road leading to the bridge across Frankford Creek, while the Leib Regiment and two English regiments from the 4th brigade pursued them along the left of this road. About four English miles from Germantown they encountered an enemy corps, which fired from a woods while retreating and wounded slightly several men of the Leib Regiment. General Stirn received a light contusion from a musket ball. Finally, all the brigades in pursuit of the enemy aligned and halted this side of Chestnut Hill. The Leib Regiment and the 40th English Regiment were sent ahead to take post along the Reading pike. Von Donop’s Regiment now set out from Germantown along the above-mentioned road and posted small bodies of troops along it to maintain communications. The army maintained this disposition for several hours, but after the enemy had completely withdrawn, it moved back into its old encampment.

While Colonel Musgrave was defending the house, he lost nineteen killed and wounded in the 40th Regiment. The light infantry and those English regiments which were first attacked by the enemy in Germantown also had some losses. Major General Agnew and Colonel Bird remained on the field, and Colonel Walcott was severely wounded. Our total loss probably amounts to some 400 men, which is, however, only a guess. The Hessian Jäger Corps had six severely and four slightly wounded. Nor can I give definite figures of the enemy’s loss. Their killed and wounded, which are estimated at about 800, are said to include several generals and staff members. There are some 40 officers among the 380 prisoners. Von Linsing’s and the English battalions which had come from Philadelphia to reinforce the army returned to the city, where the 23rd English Regiment and von Lengerke’s Grenadier Battalion had been stationed during their absence.

Although everything has remained quiet in Philadelphia, never-
theless, several inhabitants were arrested because they had aroused suspicions of being well-disposed towards the enemy. Later it was announced in the city and in the country that everyone must surrender his arms within a definite time, those failing to do so and later being found with arms in their possession being threatened with very severe punishment. We are told that a great quantity of arms has already been surrendered.

On October 5th the wounded were transported to Philadelphia.

The army shifted its camp this morning so that the right wing extended further beyond Germantown, while on this side there remained only the 4th English brigade and the two Hessian regiments, which were ordered to move forward. The Battalion von Minnigerode also moved slightly forward on the left wing. The jägers remained in their old camp.

On October 6th the regiments sent to Jersey rejoined the army.

On October 7th sixty jägers under Captain Ewald foraged as far as Plymouth without meeting any of the enemy.

On October 10th a packet arriving in the fleet brought letters from Europe dated in the month of June. It also brought the news that the rebels had made an attack on Staten Island, Long Island, and Kings Bridge on the 22nd of August, but were driven back with some loss.

On the 11th we learned from deserters that General Washington was again approaching with his army to attack us. Moreover, a jäger picket of one noncommissioned officer and three men was captured by the enemy the previous night on the road to Barren Hill and Swedes Ford. Therefore, the army turned out towards nine o'clock in the morning; but as everything remained quiet it returned to camp. The enemy, however, did intend to surprise the troops detached to Chester and Wilmington, and for this purpose sent a corps under General Potter across the Schuylkill. Hence, the 71st Regiment was ordered from Chester to Wilmington to embark with the troops posted there.

October 12th. Since the 9th of October we have been engaged in opening communications with the fleet in the Delaware and clearing this river of all enemy ships, so that we may soon break up the stockade sunk by the enemy at Mud Island. To accomplish this, we have raised batteries on Greenwich Island, Province Island, and Carpenter's Island to bombard the enemy’s craft of some thirty sail, row-
galleys and floating batteries. In spite of repeated attacks on our batteries, during which Captain von Wurmb\(^\text{15}\) (on the 8th) and Captain von Stamford\(^\text{16}\) (on the 10th) particularly distinguished themselves, our undertaking is progressing so well that we have hopes of hearing shortly of its final success.

On the 15th of October the enemy General Potter withdrew from the neighborhood of Wilmington and Chester. He camped yesterday at Foxhall,\(^\text{17}\) six English miles from our jäger outposts, and has since apparently withdrawn further.

Since I have been informed of the sailing of the packet, I must now close, hoping to send in the future as much as possible about further events.

\(^{15}\) Captain Philip von Wurmb of the Jäger Corps.
\(^{16}\) ——— von Stamford, Grenadier Battalion von Linsingen.
\(^{17}\) Can the readers of THE PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE identify Fox Hall with certainty?

(To be continued)