If we carefully study the inceptive history of our country and closely examine the backgrounds of officers and patriots of the Revolutionary War, we are most sure to find that not a small number served in the English colonial army. They came to this country during the French and Indian War, and in the subsequent years, to help extend and protect the advancing American frontier. These men, most of whom were unmarried and had the greater part of their careers before them, remained in this country and readily entered into colonial civil life. They followed courses to which they were most adapted or where opportunities seemed most fertile. This class, for the most part, was of Scotch and Irish blood.

One of the most representative, and one of special interest to Pennsylvanians, is Dr. Edward N. Hand, who rose to the rank of adjutant general in the Revolutionary War, and at its close entered public life, contributing more than an average part in the formation of a government for the united colonies. He was a highly respected citizen of this state, and an intimate and trusted friend of Washington.

The first years of his American life were spent at Fort Pitt as a young surgeon in the British service. In this capacity, and during the time spent here, he seems to have been popular with all classes and to have given more than an ordinary account of himself. He early became adjusted to

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1 Read at a meeting of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania on February 24, 1942.—Ed.
frontier conditions, selected America as his permanent home, and, so far as is known, never again returned to the land of his birth. He was, until his death, well known in this section.

Edward Hand, son of John and Dorothy Hand, was born on December 31, 1744, in Clydruff, Kings County, Province of Leinster, Ireland. He attended Trinity College in Dublin, pursuing medicine and surgery.

In 1767 he was appointed a surgeon's mate in the 18th Royal Irish Regiment of Foot. He sailed with his regiment from Cork on May 20 that year, and arrived at Philadelphia on July 11. Two companies of this regiment, including Hand, were soon after ordered to Fort Pitt. The western country at this period was comparatively quiet, and the troops stationed here saw little more than guard and garrison duty, so Hand and his compatriots found little opportunity to distinguish themselves in a military way. In fact, this part of the 18th Royal Irish Regiment left little record of its official life at Fort Pitt, and the history of the fort itself, from 1767 until it was abandoned in 1772, is little known. Hand's name appears on lease and rental documents drawn up for tenants of property around and near the fort over which the commanding officer, Captain Charles Edmonstone, held authority in representing the King.²

In 1772, Hand purchased an ensign's commission and, upon the abandonment of Fort Pitt as a military post in the same year, moved east with his company to Philadelphia. In 1774 he resigned his commission and received his regular discharge. In this year he went to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with responsible recommendations, to practice his profession, and in the following year he married Katharine, daughter of Captain John Ewing and Sarah Yeates, a sister of Judge Jasper Yeates.³


³ Thwaites and Kellogg, *Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio, 1777-1778*, 2 (Madison, Wisconsin Historical Society, 1912); Ellis and Evans, *History of Lancaster County*, 44. Jasper Yeates was born in Philadelphia in 1745 of a well-known family. He was early admitted to the bar and became a judge of the Pennsylvania supreme court. During his sojourn in Pittsburgh as Indian commissioner he visited Braddock's battlefield and later
At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, and before the honeymoon had waned, Hand applied for and obtained appointment as lieutenant colonel of the First Battalion of Pennsylvania Riflemen, clearly demonstrating his loyalty to his adopted country. He soon after marched from Lancaster to join Washington at Boston, and during the winter was quartered at Prospect Hill. In August of the following year, he was engaged in the battle of Long Island, where his ability as a trained soldier was recognized by his superior officers, even in retreat. He continued with Washington during the subsequent campaigns in New York and New Jersey, distinguishing himself at Trenton and Princeton, and going into winter quarters at Morristown, N. J.  

In April, 1777, as a result of his training and conduct in the early part of the war, Hand was appointed a brigadier general, and as such he was soon to play a leading role in a most critical period of Pittsburgh and western border history. Accounts of the hostile attitude of the western Indians, and the exposed condition of the frontier, were giving Washington and the Continental Congress considerable concern. To strengthen the western defense and thoroughly meet any challenge, the Board of War resolved, on April 9, to send one thousand rifles and five tons of lead to Fort Pitt. It further stipulated that an experienced officer of high rank be placed in command of the western department. On April 10 Hand was selected, ordered to report at Pittsburgh, and given discretionary power. It was also voted that he be given four thousand dollars for works and supplies, and three tons of gunpowder were contracted for.  

He arrived at Fort Pitt on Sunday, June 1, and relieved Captain John Neville of the command. He was unaccompanied by troops from east of the mountains, but was joined by a company of light horse militia near Ligonier and escorted to Pittsburgh. Although his garrison consisted of but two companies of the Thirteenth Virginia, raised in and around Pittsburgh, he carried authority to call upon militia officers of the frontier vividly described its appearance at that time. He was a commissioner for the government in the Whiskey Rebellion.  

4 Pennsylvania Archives, second series, 10:3–14; William B. Reed, Life and Correspondence of Joseph Reed, 1:219–277 (Philadelphia, 1847). It is a family tradition that Hand, as a result of an injury received at Princeton, lost the sight of one eye and thereafter posed for portraits in profile only.  

counties for additional recruits. Hand immediately assumed command with great enthusiasm. The smallness of the garrison available for his difficult task did not seem to enter his mind or in the least way disturb him. The great responsibility placed upon him by the Commander-in-Chief and the Board of War was to his liking. Was he not a brigadier general in command of the western department, and but a little more than thirty-two years of age? He had entered the country a little less than ten years before and received an honorable discharge from the British Army a little short of three years before taking command at Fort Pitt, where he had received his first military experience. This was a record of which any young soldier might be proud.

Soon after taking command, he revealed his understanding of conditions as he found them and made his position clear. In a letter to Colonel David Sheppard, commander of Fort Henry, at the mouth of Wheeling Creek, he firmly stated:

I do hereby declare, that in Execution of the Trust reposed in me, I shall consider those persons as dangerous & disaffected to the American Cause, who abet or in any wise foment the present unhappy disputes between the states of Virginia & Pennsylvania to the public injury. The Love of our Country will I trust, teach us to forget all Invidious distinctions & to pay the proper attention to merit, unconfined to Party. we shall do the most essential Service to the Common weal by Carefully avoiding the giving any just cause of offence to the Indians. Should a General war with the savages be inevitable, I have the highest Confidence in the fortitude of the Militia & their Zeal for the public Service, which Comprehends their dearest Interests. The knowledge I have formed of the Country & its Inhabitants by a long residence at Fort Pitt, renders my present Command highly pleasing to me . . . .

Hand was thoroughly familiar with the danger of an extended controversy over the Pennsylvania-Virginia boundary, and took measures to declare a moratorium. As far as he was concerned, he was neither Pennsylvanian nor Virginian in that quarrel but aimed only to preserve order and defend the frontier over a territory extending from the Allegheny Mountains to Kittanning, southwest to Pittsburgh, thence down the Ohio to Fort Randolph at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and farther if necessary.

Many murders had been committed by Indians on the frontier before Hand arrived at Fort Pitt. An expedition had been planned against

7 Thwaites and Kellogg, Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio, 1.
Pluggy's Town (Delaware, Ohio) by Neville, but had been abandoned. Lieutenant Governor Hamilton, the British agent, was located at Detroit with a limited garrison and few duties except to create confusion on the western border. As usual the Indians were on the side offering the greater inducements or more disposed and better able to deceive them.

The Wyandots, Mingos, and Pluggy's Town Indians, particularly the last two groups, were the most troublesome. The Chippewas and Ottawas were for a while willing to play both ends. The Shawnees and Delawares leaned toward a neutral course. While Hand was ready and willing to encourage the latter, he had little confidence in any of them. He had not studied the situation long before he decided that there was but one way to defeat the Indians, and thoroughly clean up the threat in one sweep. He proposed, as a solution, to invade their country and destroy their towns and crops. From the outbreak of the war, the loyalty of a number of the local inhabitants had been questioned and the cultivation of this element offered possibilities to Hamilton.

From June 17 to 23, Governor Hamilton held a council with several tribes of Indians at Detroit, at which he branded and severely tongue-lashed the colonial troops as rebels. He gave presents and laid plans for a combined attack on the western frontier. He issued his famous proclamation, offering bounty land and quarters to deserters from Hand's troops, and to all those sympathetic to the King's cause. This proclamation was printed and given to the Indians for distribution along the frontier.

Soon afterwards, the Indians struck with all fury. They seldom attacked in the same place twice. Reports began to pour in to Hand of depredations, raids, and skirmishes. His several posts were found wanting in men and supplies, which he was unable to furnish or in any way strengthen. The outlying inhabitants cried for protection from the murderous assaults on men, women, and children by the savages. In August, a Tory plot was discovered in the vicinity of Redstone Fort, which intended to cut off the inhabitants of that region. At the same time, the powder magazine at that point was in serious jeopardy.

On September 1, one of the most desperate stands of white men against Indians occurred at Fort Henry. The skirmish lasted all day in the greatest fury. Although no definite decision was reached, and the fort remained in the hands of the defenders, the loss of men and supplies was severe. This was a shock to Hand and the whole frontier, and for a time

8 Thwaites and Kellogg, Revolution on the Upper Ohio, 236–247.
the abandonment of that post was considered. A number of families in that section moved to a safer location, while the remaining militia threatened to go home.

On September 14, Hand, finding it impossible to secure reenforcements for the post at Kittanning, and convinced that their situation was grave, ordered a withdrawal of troops and everything portable to the house of John McKibben on White Pine Run. There they were later joined by sixty others, and a stockade was erected which was then and afterwards known as Fort Hand. For over three months after his arrival at Fort Pitt, Hand had been on the defensive at every turn. He had labored earnestly to recruit volunteers for his intended invasion of the Indian country, but with results not at all satisfactory. The most qualified men of the frontier had enlisted and marched east at the outbreak of the war, and were now in service on the Continental line. Hand, in reality, had been organizing a home guard, and up until now had scarcely been able to hold his own. When the results of the battle of Fort Henry became better known throughout the country, some improvement was noted in enlistments. Hampshire County, Virginia, sent a company to Fort Pitt under the command of Captain William Foreman. This company, upon its arrival, was immediately ordered to Fort Henry where it might be used to greater advantage, but Foreman, who was not an experienced Indian fighter, wandered too far from the fort with his company and lost half his number in a skirmish with Indians in the vicinity of Grave Creek, Foreman and his son falling early in the engagement.9

Hand now decided to gather a force of militia from the settlements along the Ohio River as far south as the Great Kanawha River, and then march overland against the Shawnee towns on the Scioto, to chastise and force neutrality on that nation. In the middle of October, he left Fort Pitt for Wheeling. There he remained for a week, waiting in vain for the assembly of a considerable body promised by Virginia. Only a few poorly equipped squads appeared. Hand then gave up the project and returned in disgust to Fort Pitt.10

Late in October, Hand once again made an effort to improve conditions, and issued a call to all county lieutenants to meet at Fort Pitt for


a conference. This meeting produced nothing but discouraging results, because of a lack to cooperation, and Hand definitely abandoned the Indian country invasion. He wrote apologetically to Washington and Governor Patrick Henry of this decision, and then prepared and contented himself with defense plans only.

Embarrassing situations did not seem to end for Hand. Early in November, he received a letter from Captain Matthew Arbuckle at Fort Randolph, relating that troops for the previously contemplated invasion of the Scioto country had arrived at that fort and had been waiting for days to join Hand's forces. Hand hurried south and upon his arrival at Fort Randolph found an unimpressive collection under the command of Colonel Skillern, badly wanting in supplies. He learned, for the first time, of the wanton murder of Cornstalk, Chief of the Shawnees, and his son, by undisciplined members of this force. Cornstalk had been laboring under great odds with his people to remain at peace, and when arrested was in the act of approaching the commander of the fort to further this cause. He was confined to the fort, and then murdered, with his son, for conditions beyond his control. Of all the setbacks serving to defeat Hand's efforts to keep the Shawnees out of the conflict, this was, so far, the most severe, and Hand was very dejected. The situation is best described in his own few words to Jasper Yeates: "If we had anything to expect from this nation, it is now vanished." Hand dismissed the militia at Fort Randolph and returned to Fort Pitt.

In the fall and winter of 1777, the affairs of the colonies appeared to be most desperate, as witness Valley Forge. It was a time in which Governor Hamilton's letters and proclamation would have the most effect. Ever since his arrival, Hand had been warned of certain Loyalists. John Gibson wrote to him concerning a certain Hickson, one of the bolder and most active Tories in southwestern Pennsylvania. Hickson was later handcuffed and drowned in the Cheat River under somewhat undetermined circumstances. Major Smallman's papers were at one time


12 Thwaites and Kellogg, *Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio*, 171, 175-177, 188. Cornstalk had long avoided strife and conflict but was unable to convince his nation of the wisdom of this policy. He was then old and his insistent endeavor gradually cost him the respect of the younger warriors who favored the English.

13 Thwaites and Kellogg, *Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio*, 142, 143. Hickson had been arrested by Colonel Zackwell Morgan and was being taken across the mouth of Cheat River (Point Marion) on a flatboat under guard of Morgan and four others when the "ac-
ordered examined but no evidence was found. Simon Girty was accused and placed in the guard house, from which he escaped, but later returned of his own accord. Colonel George Morgan was suspected, later arrested, and then acquitted. Captain Alexander McKee was sent for at his farm in McKees Rocks and placed in the guard house, but was later placed on parole. He was ordered by the Board of War to report at York, Pennsylvania, for questioning, but, feigning illness, McKee remained in Pittsburgh where he was treated with a certain amount of leniency by Hand. Late in 1777, Tory progress had reached such a point that the best of friends questioned the loyalty of each other and for a while Hand himself was suspected, so distrustful had western patriots become. Prompt action, however, placed matters under temporary control.\(^{14}\)

Early in 1778, Hand learned that the British at Detroit had established a a magazine of arms, ammunition, and supplies at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River (Cleveland, Ohio) to be used by the Indians at the opening of spring for an incursion into Hand's territory. Hand had sent a number of friendly and flattering messages to the different tribes of Indians during his hectic reign, soliciting their friendship, and this was the final result. Early in February he began preparing for a surprise attack to destroy the accumulated stores. By the fifteenth, he had assembled five hundred men, each with a horse, and the expedition presently set out. Snow covered the ground when they departed, but rain soon began to fall and continued for several days, causing the streams to overflow and the horses to sink in the mud under their own weight. The militia began to grumble. At length, after less than half the intended distance had been covered, and unruly members of his force had shot down one old man, four squaws, and one Indian boy, Hand gave up the campaign and led his doughty army back to Pittsburgh, with prizes of war consisting of two captured squaws, and his own losses recorded as one injured captain and one man drowned. Upon his arrival at Fort Pitt, his expedition was derided by the frontiersmen as the Squaw Campaign, details of which are only briefly related here.

This was enough for Hand. Chagrined and low in spirit, he urged

Congress to speed up and accept his resignation, presented to them late in December. At that time Hand had written in part: "If Congress have no particular objection, would esteem it as a most singular indulgence to be recalled & suffered to join the grand army, with them to share the honors & fatigues of the field. Indeed, unless our affairs will admit of the assistance of a regular force. I had rather resign my office than continue here in command of militia." Even more upsetting than his failure in the field were the current revelations of enemy influence and activities at Fort Pitt and elsewhere along the border he had been sent out to protect. Hand did not seem to realize to what strength the Tory conspiracy had developed. At times it was thought to be serious, only to be discounted a few days later for lack of complete evidence, and because of the denials of the suspected parties. In February and March, 1778, a daring British spy visited Pittsburgh and carried on his plotting within sight of Fort Pitt. A British flag was set up for a short time in the King's Garden and meetings were held among the soldiers of the garrison. A number of meetings were held at the home of Alexander McKee.

McKee, the Tory leader at Pittsburgh, was a man of some education and considerable influence on the border. Closely associated with him was Matthew Elliott, a former comrade in arms now a paroled prisoner from Detroit. Both had a partly devised plan for the desertion of Hand's entire forces. Being convinced that the Revolutionary War was all but lost, McKee was about to play the part of a Benedict Arnold of the West. A hint of the plot was given to Hand on the night of March 27. As a consequence, Hand ordered a squad of loyal soldiers to go to McKee's house the next morning. They arrived at the appointed time, but too late. McKee, his cousin Robert Surphlitt, Simon Girty, Elliott, and a man named Higgins, with two negro slaves, had fled.

This was the end of Hand as commander of Fort Pitt, for Congress, upon learning of this state of affairs, immediately resolved that, "Brigadier General Hand be recalled from his Command on the Western Frontier, agreeable to his request." Without leaving Detroit, Hamilton had won the decision over Hand.16

Up until his arrival at Fort Pitt, Hand had distinguished himself in

15 Thwaites and Kellogg, Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio, 191, 215-222. The farthest point of advance was somewhere near Edinburg, Lawrence County.
16 Thwaites and Kellogg, Frontier Defense on the Upper Ohio, 249-255, 294; Allegheny County Deed Book 10, 260.
every engagement in which he had taken part in the Revolutionary War. It will be recalled that he succeeded Neville, a Virginian and a captain of militia. While Neville had not been found incompetent in any way, his command was thought to be responsible for a lack of cooperation between Pennsylvanians and Virginians, occasioned by the boundary dispute. But where Neville might favor Virginians, Hand was far too lax with certain Pennsylvanians. He at least did not produce results in recruiting, which at times did not seem to equal the desertions. He was not a Wayne in matters of discipline. He may not have had the patience or inclination to deal with an untrained militia or cope with Indian warfare. He was born and trained to the European scheme of things, as his subsequent record as an officer reveals, but given the support that his successors were to receive, he might have given a better account of himself. At any rate, conditions at Fort Pitt were in a miserable state during his short stay, though his genial character and easy going ways made him few enemies and brought little outspoken criticism. Mrs. Hand had spent the winter at Fort Pitt but had returned to Lancaster early in the spring. Washington appointed Brigadier General Lachlan McIntosh to succeed Hand. Hand remained in Pittsburgh until McIntosh arrived in August. Let it be related here, in all fairness to Hand, that Washington, in recommending McIntosh to Congress, eulogized the latter as follows: “I part with this gentleman with much reluctance, as I esteem him an officer of great worth and merit, and as I know his services here are and will be materially wanted. His firm disposition and equal justice, his assiduity and good understanding, added to his being a stranger to all parties in that quarter, pointed him out as a proper person; and I trust extensive advantages will be derived from his command, which I could wish was more agreeable.”

The Eighth Pennsylvania and the balance of the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment were detached at Valley Forge and placed at the disposal of McIntosh. But with all this, McIntosh could withstand the discord of the western country for only a little over six months, and at his own request was recalled on February 20, 1779.

On Labor Day, September 5, 1932, Miss Mary Bell of Greenville, Ohio, a great, great, granddaughter of General Hand, with the writer, unveiled a tablet commemorating the founding of the first hospital west of the Susquehanna River. The reputed hospital was built by General Hand during his command at Fort Pitt, and located at a point near Craff-
ton, Pennsylvania, on the margin of Chartiers Creek. The tablet was placed there by the Pennsylvania Society, National Shrines of the American Revolution. Two or three generations ago, the existence of this hospital was accepted by the residents of the Chartiers Valley as a matter of local tradition. It was then related that the hospital was built by General Hand to care for the sick and wounded soldiers of Fort Pitt during the winter of 1777-78. However, this once accepted tradition was lost to the present generation who at once questioned its truth. A controversy, and a rush to the historical departments and institutions, to seek recorded facts, followed. In the absence of a primary record, many were referred to the writer. This became embarrassing and I determined then and there that the next time I should do any unveiling, I would better know my subject. Time and effort finally resulted in a letter from Miss Annie A. Nunns, assistant superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, which read in part as follows:

Dr. Lyman C. Draper, first secretary of this Society, visited in 1852 the home of Mrs. Dorothy Brien, only surviving daughter of Gen. Edward Hand, at Lancaster, Pa. Mrs. Brien gave him permission to make extensive copies from her father’s papers. Later Mrs. Brien gave Draper a number of the letters which relate to the West. The remainder of the Hand papers are in the New York Public Library. In Draper’s copies we note the following:

Gen. Hand to Jasper Yeates, dated Fort Pitt, Sept. 16, 1777. “The smallpox has crept into this place—I am fitting my house on the Creek for the Hospital and shall inoculate those who have not already had the disease.”

Same, to same, dated Fort Pitt, Sept. 27, 1777. “I parade two or three times a week between this place & my farm (where I have established a smallpox Hospital) with 12 expert riflemen; the exercise is good & wholesome.”

Hand called it a hospital, so a hospital it was. Mr. Henry Ingram, whose father, Thomas Ingram, purchased the site of the hospital from Nathaniel Burt of Philadelphia in 1831, related to a local historian that in 1825, and before, there stood near where he then lived (1876), a very large log building known as Hand’s Hospital. It was about one hundred feet in length and thirty in width. It was two stories high and had a porch extending entirely around it. There were two doors, one on each side, but no windows. Two partitions divided it into three rooms, above and below. A number of small block houses surrounded it at some dis-

18 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, September 6, 1932. The tablet is located on the Crafton Municipal Playground.

19 Allegheny County Deed Book 41, 263.
tance. Statements differ in regard to the number, some placing it as high as fifteen and others saying there were no more than five. Mr. Ingram, who remembered the buildings well, placed the number at not less than ten, one much larger than the others and placed high upon the bluff near by. As late as 1876, the old hospital well and several heaps of old rotten wood remained to mark the spot, and it is said that many years ago, several pieces of grape shot and some surgical instruments were found near the site.  

Upon the opening of the Pennsylvania land office in 1769, Hand, then the young British surgeon at Fort Pitt, purchased two sections of land along Chartiers Creek, acquired the patent right of two additional sections, and subsequently obtained clear title to all four sections, totaling 1423 acres. This acreage extended from near the Pennsylvania Railroad at Idlewood station, along Chartiers Creek almost to McKees Rocks, and included almost all the land now occupied by Crafton, Ingram, and parts of Sheraden and the Twenty-eighth Ward of Pittsburgh.  

When Hand built this large log house, and for what immediate purpose, is not known, but his property was occupied for a number of years by tenants, some of whom came to this country with him in the 18th Royal Irish Regiment. In 1794 the hospital building housed a McCune family. It is recorded that in this year the McCunes removed to a farm on Chartiers Creek in St. Clair Township, now Chartiers Township, a short distance below where the Steubenville turnpike crosses the creek, on land previously owned by Henry Ingram, and occupied a house formerly used as the Fort Pitt Hospital.

General Hand left Fort Pitt in August, 1778, and immediately succeeded Brigadier General John Stark in his command at Albany, N. Y. He was soon after selected to join Sullivan on his expedition up the Susquehanna River to destroy the Iroquois Indians who had sacked towns and butchered the inhabitants of southern New York and the upper Sus-

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22 James Stoops, a sergeant in the 18th Royal Irish Regiment, settled in 1775 as a tenant on land owned by General Hand. His house was located near that of Hand on Chartiers Creek. In 1780 the Indians burned his home and carried away his wife and child. They were later rescued by Captain Samuel Brady and returned to Stoops.
23 Memorial Volume. John Robinson McCune, 1—2 (Printed for private distribution, Pittsburgh, 1889).
quehanna Valley, threatening the rear of the Colonial Army. The plan was conceived by Washington and laid before Clinton and Schuyler who demurred. The command was offered to Gates who declined the task. Congress yielded to Washington and Hand and ordered the expedition. Sullivan was offered and accepted the leadership. Hand was the life of the undertaking. The resulting devastation of the Indians, Tories, their towns, and crops broke up this serious threat, and Hand’s part is a matter of honorable record.

On the formation of the light infantry corps in August, 1780, the command of one of two brigades was assigned to Hand. On January 8, 1781, he was appointed adjutant general in place of Scammell who was compelled to resign his office by reason of the condition of his private fortune. Hand was one of the fourteen generals who constituted the tribunal that tried and convicted Major André, the noted British spy. During the remainder of the war his command was a direct part of Washington’s troops. He was at the siege of Yorktown and the surrender of Cornwallis, after which he returned with his command to Philadelphia.

At the close of the war he again settled down to private life in Lancaster, where his services as a physician were much sought after. His popularity very soon thereafter forced him into public life. He was a delegate from Pennsylvania to the Continental Congress in 1784–85, a member of the Pennsylvania assembly in 1785–86, an elector in the same state for choosing the President and Vice President of the United States in 1789, and a member of the convention which formed the constitution of Pennsylvania in 1790. In politics he was a Federalist.  

In 1794 Washington appointed Hand adjutant general of the troops sent into Western Pennsylvania to establish order and defeat the purpose of the Whiskey Insurrection. He arrived at the site of Fort Pitt once again, the identical spot where he began life in America, where he had spent so many days in 1777–1778 under almost unbearable circumstances, and probably, at times, giving up hope of a successful end for a cause to which he had dedicated his life. He was once again in Western Pennsylvania, where he owned valuable land and, next to home, had his greatest interest. He very likely renewed associations with old friends and former soldiers under his command. Although his mission on this occasion may have been unfavorable to at least part of the inhabitants of the

In 1798 Washington recommended him for adjutant general and appointed him major general in the provisional army then being organized for a seemingly imminent war with France.

Hand died at his home "Rockford" near Lancaster on September 3, 1802, and his earthly remains rest in the churchyard of St. James Episcopal Church in that city, where he had served as a warden. His wife Katharine died on June 21, 1805. To them had been born: Sarah (1775–1850), wife of Samuel Bethel of Columbia, Pa.; Dorothy (1777–1862), wife of Edward Brien, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and a wealthy ironmaster at the Martic Forge, Lancaster County; Katharine (1779–1791); John (1782–1802), unmarried; Jasper (1784–1828), who followed the profession of his father and settled in Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, and many of whose descendants reside in that state and to the westward; Mary (1786–1830), unmarried; Margaret (1789–1800); and Edward, born in 1782 and died at an unknown date in Havana.

Hand died intestate. The greater part of his Allegheny County lands became the property of his son-in-law Edward Brien. In 1807, the section where Scully Railroad yards are now located was sold by the Orphans Court of Allegheny County to John Sullivan Scully, then a late arrival in this country from Ireland, and here the Pittsburgh Scully family had its inception.

26 Ellis and Evans, History of Lancaster County, 44–45.
27 Allegheny County Deed Book 13, 540.