

JOURNALS
OF THE
MILITARY EXPEDITION
of
MAJOR GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN
AGAINST THE
Six Nations of Indians
IN 1779
WITH RECORDS OF
Centennial Celebrations



PREPARED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 361, LAWS
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, OF 1885,

BY

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SECRETARY OF STATE

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JOURNAL OF SERGEANT MOSES FELLOWS.

MOSES FELLOWS, of Salisbury, Vt., was Orderly Sergeant in Capt. James Gray's Company of Scammel's, 3d N. H. Regiment. This company was of Salisbury men. He has worthy descendants, grandsons, residing in that vicinity. The original journal is in possession of A. Tiffany Norton Esq., Lima, N. Y. The following is a *literal* copy, the first thirteen pages are missing.

CHOUDEK CAMP: our Course To Day about Northerly. No house from where we marched this morning to wioiming.

JUNE THE 21st marched 20 miles through a rough Country and a new Rode, the Land Coverd with Pine Hemlock Spruce &c: we Eat Breakfirst at a Small river Cald Tunkhannah. Passd another Stream Cald Tobehannunk and another the Leahigh; we passed what is Cald the Shades of Death a Glomey thick Part of The Swamp.

22d we marched but 5 miles to Day to a Disolate house where one Mr. Bullock once Livd But was Drove off by the Savages.

23d we marched to the fort at Wyoming 7 miles where Sevrall Regt are Encamped: Our General Course to day we Past north w., the whole Country from Eastown to wyoming is very poor & Barren and I think as never will Be Settled; it abounds Chiefly in Deer and Rattle Snake; the Land At wyoming on Both Sides the river is Good, But the Good Land Extends But a Small Distance from the river; the inhabiance have been very much Distresed by the *

The next Day being the First of august & in the afternoon we marched About 8 miles & came to a place called tunkhannak & their we tarrid all night and the Next Day it being the 2st Day of august we Drew Five Days allowance & on the — Day we marched at 7 o'clock and marched 12 miles to a Place Calld whywomick on Susquehanah River; the Path was Very Good Considering Such a rough Country but a vast sight of hills Exceding Steep: the forth Day we marched Fourteen miles & Came to a Place Calld Disolate farmes. This way was No road but an old foot Path & high hills, never was known, for their was mountains Seven miles Long & Exceding Steep, after we Left these mountains We Came on a trackt of Land Such I never Saw before: the 5th Day we marched 10 miles and Came to a place Calld Wildlucit; know Person would Have thout of Seein Such Lands as here was for such a Groth I beleive never Was known, for button wood Trees was Eight or nine feet Though: & the Land was all Intervail; the next Day being rainy & our troops Could not march

7th We marched at 7 o'clock, Proceeded 3 miles to a Disolate farm upon the mouth of a Small River Calld Wesuking, where our Light troops Encampst last night; Halted an Hour & then Proceeded to a Large Tract of Beautiful Cleard Intervail Covered with very High Grass, this is with in 4 miles of Tioga and is Called Shesheamunk: it has Ben Inhabited By Both Indians & white People: we marched over a Large Body of Excellent Land this Day, the weather Being very warm and our men Gave out With fatigue Especially those on the Right flank Who were obliged to Cross Several High mountains.

* Several pages missing.

11th we march'd at 8 o'clock In the morning & marched one mile & Came to the Main River & their we all forded across & a tedious time we had for the warter was up to our Brest & the Current run very swift Indeed and we had Exceding Hevy packs at the Same Time & after we waided a cross we marched one mile further & Came to Place where Queen Easter had her Palace : But it was Burnt Down we marched one mile Further and Came to another Large River but Not Equal to the other : we forded that With Little or No harme & marched one mile further and Came to tyoga ; this days march was only four miles : the Next Day being the 12 Day of august we Lay Still : Likewise the 13 day : this Day we had intelligence of the Enemy were about moving of, in Consequence of which the main Body of our army Marched at 8 o'clock this Evening in order to suprise the enemy at Chemong By Day Brakes ; on our march We Passed Several Defiles and thick Swamps and Arrived near the town by Brake of Day : and marched into the town with fixt Bayonets and our Peaces charged ; this Town Consisted of about thirty or forty houses : these houses was Considerable Convenient But they had know Chimeys or no flores Except the Earth : and about Sunrise found the town abandoned two or three Indians only to Be Seen and they making their Escape ; about sun rise the Whole town was Burnt ; on Examination we found that a part of the Enemy Had Encamp'd about 50 or 60 rods from the town Last Night : and from all appearance the Inhabitance Had Left the town But a Fue hours Before we Arrived : Genl. Hands With Some Lite Troops Pursued them about a mile, When they were fired on from the top of a hill by about 30 Indians Who Run off as soon as the fire was Returned ; they unfortunately for us wounded three officers killed Six Privates and wounded Seven : The Enemy were persued But Escaped : Destroyed 40 acres of Indian Corn : when a Small Party of Indians and tores Fired upon our men across the River & kild one man and wounded five more of our N. Hampshire troops ; after Completion of The Distruction of the town and Corn we Returned to tioga where we arive at Dark very much fatigued : Having marchd 24 miles within 24 houers : the Weather Exeding Hot.

16th Day 1000 Chosen men under the Comand of Genl. Poor were ordered up the River to meet Genl. Clinton who is on his Way to Join us with his Brigade & is in some Danger of Being attacked By the Enemy Before he can form a Junction With our main army, and on the 21 Day they riv'ad to our Camp where we Received them with Great Joy and Saluted them with 13 Canon fired and a tune on Col. Proctors Band of musick.

The 26, our army marched at 12 o'clock according to the order of march Heretofore Laid Down, Col Procters artilery in Senter, Genl. Haund Brigade in front, Genl Poor Brigade on the Rite of Col Procter, and a rite flanking Division on the rite of Genl Poor ; and on the Left of Colo Procter Genl. Maxwil Brigade and another flanking Party on their left, and Genl. Clintons Brigade In the rear of the whole army, and the Pack horses & Cattle marched in Betwixt the Coloms within the two flanking Divisions.

We marched the 26th at 12 oclock, Proceeded 5 miles and Encamped.

27th we marched, much Impeded by the Artilery and amunition Waggons threw thick wood and Dificult Defiles, Such Cursing, Cutting and Diging, over seting Wagons, Cannon and Pack Horses into the river &c is not to Be Seen Every Day—the army obliged to Halt 7 houers at one Place, for what we Should have Been Beter without the heavy artilery, at 10 o'clock we arived at a large Place of Corn Containing about 80 Acres as Good as I ever beheld, with Great Quantities of Squashes Beenes &c. As Genl. Clinton Brigade did not Git up last night and Having all the Corn to Cut down this afternoon we did not march until 2 o'clock, our Brigade & Part of another & the artilery Baggage & Pack horses & Cattle forded the River twice this afternoon, the warter was waist Deep and Very rapid. Some of our Baggage & flower and ammuntion Was Lost In the ford. Our march to Day not More than three mile, at 10 o'clock in the Evening the rear of the baggage Past the last ford ; the army Encamped at Chemung. By a Small Scout of ours that Came in the afternoon we are Informed that their is a Large Encampment of the Enemy About 4 miles from Chemong a Small Party of them fired on a Party of ours that was Setting fire to Some Houses But no Damage.—

29 the army marched at 9 o'clock, Procecd 5 miles Where our light Troops Discovered

a Line of Breastwork about 80 Rods In their front, Which upon Reconnoetering we found to Extend about Half a Mile with a Large Brook in front of the Breastwork on their right a mountaing on their Left a Large Settlement In their rear Cald new town, their workes were very Seasonably artfully maskd With Green Bushes, that I think our Discovering of them was very accidentally as well as fortunate, the Ground they occupied was well chosen ; Scurmishing on Both Sides was Commanded immediately after our first Discovering their Work which Held until our dispoision was made, Which is as folowes ; the artilery to form in front of the works, While Genl. Poors Brigade with the Right flanking Devision and the rifle men turned The Enemy Left, By ascending the mountaing and fell in with the Enemy Rear, Supported By Genl Clinton Brigade ; Genl Maxwell Brigade formd a Corps Reserved ; Genl. Hands Brigade and the Left flank Covered the artilery to Pursue the Enemey when they Began to Retreat ; at 3 o'clock Genl Poor Brigade Began their rout By Colums from the Right of the Regt, Passd a very thick Swamp Secured with Bushes for Near a mile that the Column found Great Dificulty In keeping their order But By Genl. Poor Good Conduct we Proceeded in much Better order than we Expected we Posibely Could Have Done, after Passing the Swamp we forded a Large Creek on Both Sides of which there was a Considerable Number of Houses which Apred to Be lately Built and no Land Cleard about them, after Passing this Crick We Soon Began to asend the mountain where we Were Soon Salluted By a Brisk fire and an Indian Yell or a war Hoop, the Riflemen kept up a Scattering firing which we forned the Line of Battle, then we advanced with Fixed Bayonets without Firing a Shot altho they kept up a Steady fire upon the whole of the way up the Hill, Which is about Half a mile ; Col Reeds Regt which was on the Left of the Brigade was more Severely atacked Which Prevented His Being able to advance as fast as the rest of the Brigade ; after the Brigade Expected Col Reed Regt. Had Gained the Summit of the Hill We Commenced a heavey fire upon the Enemy which they were not able to with stand But Were oblige to take to there Heels ;—Colo. Reed Still Sustaining a heavy fire from a Large Body of the Enemy which Prevented His asending the Hill, Induced Colo Derbon, as he was next to Him, to reverse the front of the regt and move to his asistance, as Genl Poor was on the right of the Line and at such a Distance as Rendered it Imposible for Colo. Derbon to obtain Seasonable Orders Whether to go to the asistance of Colo. Reed or not, but he moved With out, found a body of the Enemy turning Colo. Reed Right which upon Receiving a full fire from our Regt Left the field of action with Precepiation, Which Proved a very Seasonably relief to Colo. Reed, who had at the very moment that Colo. Derbon Commanded the fire on those that were turning His Right, Being Reduced Extremely of Retreating or Charging Bayonets upon Double his numbers that had formed a Semicircle Round Him, He put the Latter in Practice, the Enemy finding themselves So Severely Handled Quit the field of action and made the Best of their way off about 5 o'clock, our troops that were in action Discovered Greatest Bravery and Good order ; Half a hour Befor the action became Serious With us the artilery Began a very heavy fire which obliged them to Retire and being Persued By our Lite troops about 3 miles so as to oblige Enemy to Leave a Great Part of their Packs &c. ; our Whole Loss killed and wounded in Genl. Poor Brigade was

1 majr. wounded.

1 Capt. Do

1 Lt. Do Died the Same night

non Commisond }
Privates } 2 kild 29 wounded.

The number of the Kildd & wounded in the whole army Exept Genl. Poor Brigade was 4 wounded ; The Enemy Loss found on the Ground 11 Indians Wariers Dead & one Squah, 1 tory Prisoners one negro from Which prisoners we Learns that the Enemy Strength was 200 whites and 600 Indians and that they Had a Great many Kild and wounded and the Remainder most Horridly Pannic Struck ; at Sun Set the army Encamped on the Ground Lately occupied By the Enemy where we found a number of new Blankets Inserted with many Packs trinkets.

30th Remained on the Ground this Day Destroyed a vast number of acres of Corn & Burnt about four houses ; the army By a Request of Gen. Sulivans have agreed to Live on Half allowance of meat and flower When we Can Get Corn ; this Night all our wounded With 4 of our Heaviest Pieces of artillery and all the ammunition Waggon were sent off by Warter to tioga which Will Enable the army to march With much greater Ease and Rappidity ; our Course from Chemong about North w.

31 we marched at 10 o'clock, the Right Colum on the Hill, the Left By the River, the Land Very Good Several Large Fields of Corn ; we Proceeded 9 miles to where there was a Very prity town Calld Kannawahalla Which from appearance was abandand this morning. Some Boats Was Seen Going of by our advance Gard, a Large number of feather Beds were entied In the houses, our Soldiers found Several Chest Buried filld with varity of Household furniture and other things ; after halted Here about an Hour we Proceeded up Between the two Rivers on a fine Plain about 5 miles and encampd, the whole army forming a Holow Square which Enclosed our Horses and Cattle ; a Detachment of our army persued a partye of the Enemy up the allegany River about 9 miles ; Could not overtake them But found & Destroyed Several Very Large Cornfields.

SEPR. 1st. We marched at 9 o'clock, after the Detachment Before mentioned Joind and Proceeded 3 miles on a plain, then Passd a narrow Defile Between a high mountain and a Deep marsh, then Proceeded one mile & Entered What is Cald the 9 mile Swamp and a most horrid Road for the artillery Between and Pack Horses were obliged to ford thirty times, the rite hand Hand Colom were obliged to march over the mountains the whole way, our advance guard Arived at a Town Cald French Cathrene at Dusk, found fires Burning and Every appearance of the Enemy Having Left the Place but a fue minits, the main army at dark Was 2 miles from the town, In one of the thickest & Most Miry Swamps I ever Saw, it was with the Greatest Difculty we Got through the mire to the town where we arived all But Genl Clinton Brigade at 10 o'clock Very much fatigued ; this town Contains about 30 Houses Some of Which were Very Good for Indians Houses, there is a number of fruit trees in the town, the Streame we forded So often runs through the town and into Connadaga or Sineca Lake the South End of which is But 3 miles from this Town.

2d we found an old Squaw In the Bushes that was not able to go off, By whome we learn that Butler with the tories Went from this Place with All the Boats the Day Before yesterday, the Indians Warriors moved off their famelies & Efects yesterday morning and then Returned to the Town where they Staid till Sun Set. She Says that the Squaws and Indians were Loth to Leave the town and were for giving themselves up, But the warriors would not agree to it. She likewise Says that Butler met a reinforcement of Indians here who would

* * * (pages 50 & 51 missing) * * *

Battle their and was adopted into a family in this town Where he Has Lived or rather Stayed until Now ; he appeared Quite overjoyed at meating Some of His old acquaintance of wyoming Who are Volonteers In this army ; he Says the Savages were very much Distressed for Provision from april till Corn was fit to Eat, that their Whole Dependance was Hunting. he Say the Indians Were Very much alarmed & Dejected at their Being Beat at new town, they say they had 7 warriors killd And a Great many Wounded which were [sent] To Conadasaga By water ; Destroyed the town orchard Cornfield &c.

6 DAY we marched & Proceeded 5 miles and Encampd ; Opposite to the Shore the Ground we Encampd on we Discovered a Settlement Where we Could See a number of Indians Driving Horses ; pased the ford march about 3 miles by the Side or rather the north End of the Lake and to a Small Settlement which We Destroyed & Proceeded 2 miles further to the Capital of the Sineca Cald Connadasaga Where we Rived at Sun Set ; here We Expected to have taken Some Prisoners, two Brigades Being ordered to march round the town, one on the right the other on the Left but found no Persen in or about it Except one White Child about 3 years old Which we Suppose is a Captive ; this town is Cald the Sineca Castle ; in the Center of the town has Been a Stockade fort & a Block Hous Which are gone to ruin ; their was left in the Houses a Great number of Skins, Some Corn and Many of their Curiosities.

8th the army Lay Still to Day, the Rifle men were Sent to Destroy a town about 8 miles from here on the Side of the Lake, Gaghasieanhgwe ; we found a Very large fields of Corn and Grass about this town, A Considerable Quantity of Hay In Stacks which We St on fire ; one of our Scouts Burnt a town yesterday Cald Long falls 10 miles N. E of this town on the way to Cayyuga.

9th By Reason of the Heavy Rain last night we were Not able to move this Morning till 12 o'clock for Geneses ; what Corn, Beans, peas, Squashes Potatoes, Onions, turnips, Cabage, Cowcubmers, watermilions, Carrots, pasnips &c. our men and horses Cattle &c could not Eat was Destroyed this Morning Before we march ;—all the Sick and Invalids were Sent Back this morning under an Escort of 50 men to tioga ; we Proceeded about 3 miles, the Great Part of the way through Old fields that are Groned up with Grass Trees & Bushes, then Entred a thick Swamp through which we Proceeded with Great Difficulty 4 miles, then Crosst a Stream & Encamped in an old field. Before we marched this We totally Destroyed the town & orchard.

10th the army marched at 8 o'clock. Proceeded 3 miles through a thick Swamp, then Came to Large fields that have Been Cultivated formerly But are Groned over with Grass and trees, these field Continued about 5 Miles with Intervail ; after Leaving the fields one mile we Came to a Very Pleasant Pond or Lake Cald Connondaguah, We forded the outlet of the Lake, marched About Half a mile and Came to an Indian town Cald Connondaguah Consisting of about 30 Houses Which were much Better Built and Situated than any I have Seen Before ; the army would Have marched Six miles further to day after Burning the town, finding at Some Distance from the town Several Large fields of Corn we were ordered to march to the fields and Encamp, Which we did at 3 o'clock p. m. Several Parties Were ordered out this afternoon to Destroy the Corn.

11th the army marched this morning at Sun rise to an Indian town Cald anyayea or Honneyayeu, Consisting of about 8 or 10 Houses, as Situated on a Large Body of Cleared Land, a Small Lake around it Several Large Corn fields ; the Greatest Part of which We have marched to Day is Covered over With Grass and Some Scattering trees, it had Been the appearance of being formerly Cultivated

12th the weather being foule the army did not march until 12 o'clock ; a Small Post is Established Here at Which the Provision, Pack Horses &c will Be Left until we Return ; What is nesseray for to Cary With us to Geneses (25 miles and Back Here) ; Piece of artillery Will Be Left also ; the army marched 11 miles this afternoon over an Exelent Body of Land and Encamped at Sun Set.

13th marched at 7 o'clock proceeded $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles and Came to a town Cald Kagnegasas Consisting of about 18 Houses Situated on a fine Piece of Intervail where we found Large field of Exelent Corn with a Great Plenty of Beans & Squashes, Potatoes, mush milions ; Here the army Halted 4 Houres to Build a Bridge over a very bad Crick & destroy the corn and at this town Lived a very noted Warrior Cald the Great tree who Has Pretended to be very friendly to us and to His Exellency Genl. Washington and from Congress ;* a Party of Rifle men & some others 26 in number under the Command of Lt. Boyd of the Rifle men was Sent Last night to reconnoiter a town 7 miles from this and was ordered to return at Day Break, they killed and Scalped an Indian of the town in the morning and Returnd about Half way to Camp where they Imprudently halted and Sent 4 men To report to the Genl what they Had Discoverd ; after Laying Still Some time they Had Discoverd Some Small Indian Scouts Between them and Camp Which they Persued until they Had Killd one of them, they were then attackd By a Body of two or three Hundred and Indians, Lt Boyd Sustained the fire for Some time But Being nearly Surounded attempted to make His Escape But was So Closely Presued that himself & 19 men were taken and kild ; the enemy left all their Packs, Hats and many other things Where the action Commenced, which we found ; Immediately after the army marched on, we Proceeded to the above Mentioned town and Encamped ; this town is Cald Gaghehewarahare it Consists of above 22 Houses and is situated on a Small River the Falls into the Geneses River 2 miles from the Town.

* So in original.

14th we marched at 12 o'clock; after fording Small river Which this Town Stands on and Passing a Small Grove we Entered upon the Great Geneses flats which is a vast Body of Cleard Intervail Covered With Grass that was from 4 to 8 feet High, these flats Extend 12 or 14 miles on the River, our army moving in the order of march Laid Down appeard to great advantage, after marching about 2 miles we came to what Is Cald Genese Lake or River the Largest we Have Pased Since we have Left Sisquehannah, after fording the River and Pased over a Body of flats we asending a hill marched 3 miles and Came to the Great town Chenese; this town is Situated on a Beautiful Tract of Land in a Bow of the River and Consists of about 130 Houses the Greatest Part of Which are Very Compact. When we Entered the Town We found Lt. Boyd & one man Dead and Most Horribly mangled, they were Laying near a tree which we Suposed they were tyed To While they were massacred as their was Blood & other Signs near the tree; it appeared they first whipt them and Very Severely, then Cut Out their tongues & Plucked out their Eyes and nails, then Stabd them With Spears and after Venting all their Hellish Spite Cut off their Heads and Left them, this was a Horrid Spectacle to Behold Indeed, and from which we are taught nesesity of fighting those more then Devil as Long as we have Life Rather then to Surrender Ourselves prisoners; it appears that the Savages Left this Place in a Great Hurry as they Left a Quantity of Corn Gathered and Some Husked hung up to Dry and Some Laying in Heaps husked and unhusked

15th at 6 o'clock the whole Army was turned out to destroy the Corn one Regt. from Each Brigade With the rifle men and artillery to guard the army while the Corn was Destroyed. We were from 6 to 2 o'clock Very Bussy until we Compleated our Work; it is thought we have Destroyed 15,000 Bushels of Corn, Besides Beans, Squashes, Potatoes in abundance, a great Part of this Corn was Planted By the tories under Butler and Intend's for a magasin to aid them to Carry on their war against our Fronteers as we are informed By Some Prisoners; the method we took to Gather it into the Houses Putting wood and Bark with it then set fire to the Houses; thus it was effectually Destroyed. Some we hove into the River; this is the End of our journey we are now turning of our face homeward; a woman With her Child came to us this day who was Brought a captive from Wyoming.

* * * pages 74, 75 of journal missing * * *

At Diferent Places This morning which Employed the army till 11 o'clock to Distroy. We Crossed the Crick at Gaghehegwarahare and at 4 arived at Kanaghshas and Encamped —13 of Lt. Boyd Party Were found to Day dead and scalpd near to gether and as they were all shot it appears they Bravelly fought till Every man was kild and of Consequence kild a number of the Enemy; Honyose oneida Indian who was one of the Party among the Dead and Very much mangled

17th we Marched at Sun rise Proceeded to anyaye where We Left our Stores and found all Safe to our Great Joy as we were much afraid that the Party that Cut off Lt. Boyd would have found out the Cituation of our Small Garrison and make an atempt to Suprise it Which Would have been a fatal affair to our army; our Soldiers in High Spirits and are Willing to make great marches; the Reason is obvious we are Going Homeward.

18th the army march at 8 o'clock, Proceeded to Kanandaguah & in camped.

19th. we marched to Kannadasagea the 13th in this town we found hung up about 10 or 12 feet from the Ground on a Pole Set up we Suposed, two dogs Which is their method of Sacrafising to their Imaganary Gods of war in time of Danger.

the following to Be added to the 15th. this woman informs us that the Dogs spoke of yesterday were Sacrifised on hearing of the Battle of Newton and of Desolation of their Country as we march thru it.