

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

FREDERICK COOK,
SECRETARY OF STATE

—:—
AUBURN, N. Y.

• KNAPP, PECK & THOMSON, PRINTERS •

• 1887 •

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(See Addresses, Biographical Notes, Letters and Poems at Page vi to viii hereof.)

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION, - - - - -	xi
JOURNALS OF OFFICERS, - - - - -	1-312
BARTON, WILLIAM, LIEUT., Gen. Maxwell's N. J. Brigade,	3
BEATTY, ERKURIES, LIEUTENANT, 4th Pennsylvania Reg't,	15
(1). Expedition to Onondaga, April, 1779, - - - - -	16
(2). General Sullivan's Expedition, - - - - -	18
BLAKE, THOMAS, LIEUTENANT, 1st New Hampshire Reg't,	38
BURROWES, JOHN, MAJOR, Spencer's 5th N. J. Regiment,	42
CAMPFIELD, DR. JABEZ, SURGEON, Spencer's 5th N. J. Reg't,	52
DEARBORN, HENRY, LT. COL., commanding 3rd N. H. Reg't,	62
ELMER, DR. EBENEZER, SURGEON, 2nd N. J. Regiment, -	80
FELLOWS, MOSES, SERGEANT, 3rd New Hampshire Regiment,	86
FOGG, JEREMIAH, MAJOR, 2nd New Hampshire Regiment,	92
GOOKIN, DANIEL, ENSIGN, 2nd New Hampshire Regiment,	102
GRANT, GEORGE, SERGEANT MAJOR, 3rd N. J. Regiment,	107
GRANT, THOMAS, of Surveyor's party, - - - - -	137
HARDENBERGH, JOHN L., LIEUT., 2nd N. Y. Regiment,	
With Notes and Maps of Battle-Fields, by General John S. Clark,	115
HUBLEY, ADAM, LIEUT. COL., commanding 11th Pa. Reg't,	145
JENKINS, JOHN, Pa., LIEUTENANT AND GUIDE, -	168
LIVERMORE, DANIEL, CAPTAIN, 3rd N. H. Regiment,	178
MACHIN, THOS., CAPT., Col. Lamb's 2d N. Y. Art'ly Reg't,	
(1). Col. Van Schaick's Expedition against the Onondagas, -	192
(2). Table of Distances of March of General Sullivan's Army,	194
ROSTER OF OFFICERS OF 1ST N. Y. REGIMENT, - - -	195
MCKENDRY, WM., LT. AND QR. MASTER, 6th Mass. Reg't,	198
NUKERCK, CHAS., CAPT. LIEUTENANT, 2nd N. Y. Regiment,	213

JOURNALS OF OFFICERS.—Continued.

NORRIS, JAMES, MAJOR, 3rd N. H. Regiment, - - -	223
ROBERTS, THOMAS, SERGEANT, 5th New Jersey Regiment,	240
ROGERS, REV. WILLIAM, D. D., CHAPLAIN, Hand's Brigade,	246
ROGERS, WILLIAM, QR. MASTER'S-SERG'T, 2nd N. Y. Reg't,	266
SHUTE, SAMUEL, LIEUTENANT, 2nd New Jersey Regiment,	267
VAN HOVENBURGH, RUDOLPHUS, LIEUT., 4th N. Y. Reg't,	275
WEBB, NATHANIEL, SERG'T MAJOR, 2nd N. Y. Regiment,	285
MAP AND LETTER OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM GRAY,	
Survey of Colonel William Butler's line of march, Oct. 2 to	
Nov. 16, 1778, - - - - -	288
MAPS IN THE DE WITT COLLECTION,	
List of MSS. Surveys by Captain GRAY, 1778, and Lieu-	
tenant BENJAMIN LODGE, of the Sullivan Expedition,	
made 1779, by order of ROBERT ERSKINE, Geographer	
to the American Army, now in the Library of the New	
York Historical Society entitled De Witt Maps, -	291
Letters of General JOHN S. CLARK, describing the same	
with an account of <i>fac similes</i> made by him for this	
publication, - - - - -	293
SIMEON DEWITT, appointment as Geographer to the army,	
in place of Robert Erskine, deceased, - - -	294
MAJOR GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN'S Final Official	
Report of Expedition, - - - - -	296
COLONEL DANIEL BRODHEAD'S Official Report,	
Allegany Expedition, - - - - -	306
LIST OF JOURNALS, no copies of which are now to be found.	
Letter of Major ADAM HOOPS, (3rd A. D. C. to Gen-	
eral Sullivan), Sept. 18, 1841, - - - - -	310
LIST OF NARRATIVES, written since the Sullivan Expe-	
dition, - - - - -	312
ROSTER OF OFFICERS, in Maj. Gen. Sullivan's Expedition,	
by HON. CHARLES P. GREENOUGH, Boston, Mass.	313

JOURNAL OF SERGEANT NATHANIEL WEBB.

NATHANIEL WEBB, was Sergeant Major in the Second N. Y. Regiment. The original journal was in possession of his son, Dr. Ezekiel Webb in 1855, at which time a part of it was published in the *Elmira Republican*, September 11th and 12th. No trace of the original can be found, and as no files of the paper are in existence, that part published on the 12th of September, cannot be found.

The following is taken from a copy furnished General John S. Clark, by Lyman C. Draper, Esq., Corresponding Secretary of the State Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin :

FROM THE ELMIRA DAILY REPUBLICAN, SEPT. 11th, 1855.

RELICS OF THE OLDEN TIME.

Dr. Ezekiel Webb has placed in my hands a journal kept by his father, Nathaniel Webb, who was an officer in Colonel Van Cortlandt's regiment, Mc.Dougal's Brigade, having entered the service in April, 1777. He was present at the surrender of Burgoyne, at the battles of Germantown, Monmouth and several other engagements, notes of which appear in this Journal.

In April, 1779, Van Cortlandt's regiment was ordered from Albany to accompany Sullivan's Expedition against the Indians. The journal states the details of the expedition, from day to day, until it reaches Wyoming where the regiment to which he belonged (Van Cortlandt's) arrived the 14th of June. The Journal proceeds :—

JOURNAL.

JUNE 17.—Decamped at 10 A. M. The three regiments marched up to Jacob's Plains—Encamped near the bank of the river on the east shore, about four miles above the garrison.

23.—Gen. Sullivan arrived with two Brigades—Maxwell's and Poor's. They encamped below the garrison.

27.—Gen. Poor, with his Brigade, left Wyoming, and encamped at Forty Fort on the West Shore.

JULY 4.—Col. Cilley's Regiment and ours joined Gen. Poor at Forty Fort.

20.—300 * boats arrived with provision for Sunbury.

21.—800 † head of cattle, 500 horses, 500 wagons arrived.

24.—200 boats arrived with stores, at which time 30 cannon were fired from the park.

31.—The army decamped at 10 A. M. Encamped that night at Lackawana.

AUGUST 3.—Decamped at 7 A. M. Fleet and army moved off. The army crossed Tunkhannock, and encamped near the same.

4.—7 A. M., fleet and army got under way. Encamped that night at Vanderlip's desolated farm, 42 miles from Wyoming.

5.—Half past 8 A. M. got under way: At 5 P. M. reached Wyalusing, and encamped on the flats

7.—Sergeant Shoecraft of our regiment, with three men and an Indian, set out to reconnoitre the country between this and Tioga.

8.—Decamped at 5 A. M. Marched this day as far as Standing Stone.

9.—Decamped at 5 A. M. Marched this day through some bad defiles and mountains and encamped on the Flats, Six miles from Tioga.

10.—Lay in encampment—drew provisions, &c. A regiment from each Brigade went as an escort to the Commander in Chief. They brought in a milk cow from Tioga.

11.—Decamped 8 A. M. Our regiment and the New Jersey regiment crossed "Siskohano" and Shoved up the river to Tioga. At 3 P. M., the fleet arrived, and pitched tents between the North and West Branches of the river.

12.—Turned out a fatigue party to build block-houses. At 2 P. M., a lieutenant and 8 men returned from a Scout to Chemung. Met with no opposition—Saw a number of Indians in the town who appeared to be in great confusion. The party found two fresh scalps which they brought into camp. At 8 P. M. the whole army off duty, marched off to Chemung.

13.—At 5 A. M. we approached the town. The enemy had all left it some hours before we arrived. We burnt the town, and destroyed most of the corn in and about it. Several "Scrimmages" happened between our troops and the enemy during our stay at Chemung. We lost fourteen killed and wounded. At 4 P. M. left Chemung and returned to Tioga.

15.—One thousand men detached under command of General Poor, to march up the North Branch to meet Gen. Clinton. They were ordered to march the next morning. At 2 P. M. a party of the enemy came down upon the Flats, killed one of the drovers and wounded another—took off seven horses. Killed one bullock but did not get him off. Our troops pursued but did not come up with them.

16.—At 10 A. M. the party under Gen. Poor marched up the river. A Sergeant, Corporal and 12 men from each Brigade were detached in order to scout round about the mountains to ambuscade the Savages lurking in the vicinity of the camp. 4 P. M. a Captain and 60 men mounted as a guard to prevent the cattle and horses from straying to the mountains.

17.—Some lurking Savages killed one Soldier and wounded another about 20 miles from camp.

20.—Ten riflemen came in from Gen. Clinton—left him about 22 miles from this place.

22.—Gen. Clinton arrived, and also the detachment under Gen. Poor. One of our scouting parties killed and scalped an Indian about five miles up the West Branch [Chemung]

26.—A signal gun fired for striking the camp. At 1 P. M. the army got under way. Our Regiment remained on the ground to collect cattle and horses.

27.—Our regiment left Tioga and joined the army before they marched. The army

* The first figure is somewhat indistinct and may be an 8.

† This may be 300.

marched within four miles of Chemung. Our Brigade encamped about three miles in rear of the army that night.

28.—At 8 A. M. our Brigade joined the army, which, immediately upon our arrival, struck their tents, after destroying some fine fields of corn. Army all crossed the river and marched up to Chemung, except our Brigade, on the east side of the river. This night the whole army encamped on the flats of Chemung.

29.—The army at 8 A. M. moved about four miles up the river. The General discovered a fortification of the enemy on the flats. Gen's. Poor and Clinton's Brigades were ordered to march around, in order to gain the rear of the enemy. Several large mountains and defiles occasioned our not advancing far enough up the river in season, before our cannon began to play, which occasioned them to retire. A smart scattering fire happened between Gens. Poor and Clinton and the enemy, upon the Mountain, which made our friend Butler to mend his pace. Several of the enemy were found dead. We had 5 officers and men killed, and several slightly wounded. We encamped that night upon the ground that Butler did the night before. We took two prisoners.

30.—8 A. M., 400 men were ordered out to destroy corn, &c. Several Indians and Tories were found dead; some of which they had hove into the river—also the body of Queen Esther, who murdered many of the inhabitants of Wyoming last summer.

31.—Several boats, with wounded men and heavy artillery, Set out for Tioga. 9 A. M. the army moved—burnt Newtown; left some fine fields of corn standing about Newtown. We left the river, and followed up a small branch. Encamped that night upon a fine plain about ten miles from Newtown.