THE LIFE AND SERVICES

OF

General John Philip de Haas

1735 - 1786

By ABRAM HESS, A Great-Great-Grandson
LEBANON, PA.

Paper Read before the Lebanon County Historical
Society, February 10, 1916

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FOREWORD

As the writer of the following sketch of General De Haas is a lineal descendant of that patriotic actor during the Colonial and Revolutionary periods of our country’s history, it was quite natural that he should come to entertain a feeling of special interest in the man as a citizen and a soldier, and still more a feeling of filial pride on account of their ancestral and family relationship.

This interest in the man and his ancestral bearings to the writer led the latter many years ago to enter upon a search for any and all information pertaining to the subject here sketched that could in any way or anywhere be found, all of which, a fragment here and a fragment there, whether in the form of official records, notations by other writers, family traditions, or whatever may have supplied sources of information, he carefully stored up and from time to time compiled into consecutive and orderly form for its preservation for his personal use and personal satisfaction, without any thought of ever parading it before the public or having it appear in published form.

Although reluctant to pose before the public as the biographer of a man so prominent in his day, as also on account of their family relationship, the writer of this sketch was led by a sense of duty to the Lebanon County Historical Society, of which he is a member, and of which county General de Haas nearly his entire life was a resident, to yield to a call of the Society for a presentation to it, and through it to the public at large, of the material he had been able to gather, and which is now put forth as a sketch of the life and services of one of Lebanon county’s military contributions to our country’s cause during its periods of greatest trials, and when in need of men of tried devotion and heroic mould.

As to his military record an amplitude of material was found to exist. Not so, however, as to his civil record. The paucity of data along this line was found unusually pronounced con-
considering the prominence of the man, and it has been a disappointment to the biographer that this was so. The most painstaking effort failed to find anything more than is here given as to the General's private life, out of which to construct a fuller biographical record of him, his personality, and his civic relationships and activities, so we must content ourselves with what could be secured along this line.

Nevertheless in the parts appended to this sketch, consisting of copies of official documents, and numerous accounts of affairs in which General de Haas had a part, there is given much material, either directly, or inferentially, to afford a completer view of the man, material that by reason of its contextual bearings could not be separated from the documents and accounts in which it appears. The Society cannot feel otherwise than deeply grateful to Mr. Hess for this valuable contribution.

It is not known that any complete or extended record of the General exists anywhere, and it is believed that all the known facts as to his life and services are here fully and finally brought together, unless other matter may yet appear in the "Washington Papers," containing "General Washington's Correspondence with the Continental Congress," a work of many volumes issued by the Library of Congress but not yet ready for circulation, and therefore not accessible at this writing, although the index to these "Washington Papers," in itself consisting of four volumes, is now in circulation. In that part of this Index, entitled "Correspondence With the Officers," de Haas' name is shown to have appeared in seven communications.

It is a matter of additional satisfaction that incident to the reading of this sketch before the Society at a public meeting held in the Court House, Lebanon, on the evening of February 10, 1916, the memory of General de Haas was further honored by commemorative exercises, consisting of choral and orchestral music, readings of a patriotic character, an introductory address by the President of the Society, Capt. H. M. M. Richards, Litt.D., and a large attendance of the people of Lebanon.

S. P. Heilman, Secretary.
The Life and Services of General John Philip de Haas

BY ABRAM HESS

LEBANON, Pa., February 10, 1916.

Mr. President and Members of the Lebanon County Historical Society.

The work of preparing the paper to be read on this occasion is so entirely variant to that with which I am familiar, that it was with much hesitation that I undertook the preparation of this sketch of the life and services of General John Philip de Haas, and I did so only on the earnest representations of your zealous Secretary, Dr. S. P. Heilman, that it would be not only of interest to the members of the Society, but that it would also be a valuable addition to the records of the Society.

This paper should have been prepared by one accustomed to historical writing, and I wanted to turn over the material I have collected to such an one, but the Doctor would not grant me even this release, insisting that I was the logical writer of the paper. Viewed from a hereditary standpoint, he may be right, but I am sure it is at the expense of interesting portraiture.

Necessity compels me to confine my sketch to the public life and activities of the General, all of which I have gathered from public records. Although he acquired considerable property and was, to all appearances, a rich man for his time, yet of his business pursuits I have been unable to learn anything. Dr. W. H. Egle, the author of a History of Pennsylvania and other historical productions, says that de Haas was interested in the iron business, but I have been unable to find any trace of this, and I have looked closely into the early history of the iron business of this county.

I mentioned this lack of information to the Doctor, when he
replied, if you do not have this information no one else has it and we must be satisfied to do without it; go ahead and give us what you have.

I do not even have family traditions, faulty as they generally are, to fall back on; if my mother knew any she never imparted them to me, and I doubt whether she or any other members of the family of the two preceding generations knew that the General ever lived in Lebanon. I certainly did not know it, and only became aware of this fact when I read it in Egle's History of Lebanon County; prior to that I only knew that I had an ancestor who fought in the Revolutionary War, and knew that his name was John Philip de Haas. When I read Egle's History and found that Lebanon's John Philip de Haas was the progenitor of the de Haas family of Clinton County, to which my mother belonged, I knew he was my Revolutionary ancestor from the fact that he had only one son, who located on the military lands of his father at the mouth of Beech Creek in Clinton County.

When I found that Egle made such a hero of my ancestor, I became interested and set out to learn all that I could about him, and the very brief information I got of his private life I think had better be noted here, before going into his public career.

He married, age and date not yet learned, Eleanor Bingham, whose family I have not been able to trace. He had two children, a son named John Philip, and a daughter named Henrietta. He was an intimate friend of the Reverend Conrad Bucher, a clergyman of the Reformed Church, and at that time a resident of Lebanon, they having been brother officers in the French and Indian war, prior to Bucher's becoming a minister. From the records of Tabor Reformed Church, Lebanon, I learned that he and his wife stood sponsors for two of Reverend Bucher's daughters, Anna Dorothea, baptized on September 3, 1770, and Maria Elizabeth, baptized on April 25, 1773.

He was one of the ten signers with Rev. John Caspar Stoe-ver to a petition, dated September 2, 1768, soliciting subscriptions to pay for the building of Salem Lutheran Church, and
from this I conclude that he was a member of that congregation.

Early in my investigations I found that there was a belief current in the family in Clinton County, and kept alive by repetition in newspaper articles from time to time, that the wife of John Philip, Jr. (Ann Shippin) was a younger sister of the wife of Benedict Arnold (Margaret Shippen). I accepted this and believed it until I disproved the fact.

I found that John Philip de Haas and Ann Shippin, not Shippen, were married in St. Paul's Church in Philadelphia, on August 21, 1792, and I have Orphans' Court records proving that Ann Shippin was the daughter of Captain William Shippin.

Captain Shippin was killed on January 3, 1777, at the battle of Princeton. His remains were interred in the Quaker burying ground at Stony Brook, not far from the field of battle, whence they were removed to Philadelphia twelve days later. The hearse which conveyed his and General Mercer's bodies both crossed the Delaware river on the ice.

His funeral is thus described in the "Pennsylvania Post" of January 18, 1777:

"Yesterday the remains of Captain William Shippin, who was killed at Princeton on the third instant gloriously fighting for the liberty of his country, were interred in St. Peter's Church Yard. His funeral was attended by the Council of Safety, the members of Assembly, Officers of the Army, a troop of Virginia Light Horse, and a great number of inhabitants. This brave and unfortunate man was in his twenty-seventh year, and has left a widow and three children to lament the death of an affectionate husband and a tender parent, his servants a kind master, and his neighbors a sincere and obliging friend."

The Journal of Margaret Morris, of Burlington, New Jersey, published in the "History of the Hill Family" (Hist. Soc. Lib.) contains the following:

1777, Jan. 5—"I heard today that Captain Shippin, who threatened to shoot my son for spying at the Gondolas, is killed. I forgave him long ago for the fright he occasioned me, and felt sorry when I heard he was dead."

Jan. 15—"I was a good deal affected this evening at seeing the hearse
in which General Mercer's body was conveyed over the river on the ice to be buried at Philadelphia; poor Capt. Shippin's body was also taken over at the same time, to be buried there.

The Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the Revolution, placed a Mural Tablet to his memory in St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, which was unveiled on the afternoon of January 3, 1895, the one hundred and eighteenth anniversary of the day on which he was killed.

This Shippin matter is quite a digression from the history of General de Haas, but I was glad for this opportunity to correct a prevalent error, and since Captain Shippin also was my great-great-grandfather, I hope I may be pardoned the digression.

I now proceed with my history of the General, and for the purpose of convenient arrangement and easy reading, I divide my sketch into two parts—a Biographical part and another in which is given his Military History, with the idea of keeping the two separated.

Whilst all of the information I have gathered relates to the distinguished General, I must omit much from this paper and confine myself to extracts, otherwise it would become very tiresome, both in reading and hearing, but the information in full is put as an addendum to the paper to be preserved as a permanent collection of facts, for the benefit of future historians and the perusal of those who may care to read it.

GENEALOGY AND BIOGRAPHY

The de Haas family is of German origin, and General John Philip de Haas was a descendant of Baron Charles de Haas, of Brandenburgh, Prussia, whose family Arms are of the City of Florence, being awarded to the Baron by the Emperor Rudolf for the conquest of Italy. The Arms are quite beautiful.

The Biography in the Penna. Hist. Mag. says: "It is said that General de Haas prided himself on his noble ancestry and used a Seal. Between two wings displayed a stag springing and at the bottom of the shield a stag courant."
The subject of our sketch, John Philip de Haas, son of John Nicholas de Haas, was born about 1735 in Holland. His father emigrated to Pennsylvania a year or two thereafter, for on the 28th of March, 1739, he took out a warrant for one hundred and fifty acres of land in Lebanon Township, then Lancaster, now Lebanon County.

Although brought up on his father's pioneer farm, he must have received the rudiments of a fair German and English education to enable him to enter the military service as young as he did.

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR

It has already been said that General de Haas prided himself on his noble ancestry, and doubtless the military career of that ancestor influenced his early entrance into military service, he doing so in the twenty-second year of his age.

On December 18, 1757, he was commissioned Ensign in the Provincial Battalion of Pennsylvania, Governor William Denny commanding, and was stationed on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River at Fort Augusta. He was promoted April 30, 1758, to Adjutant of the First Battalion, Colonel John Armstrong commanding. With this Battalion he took part in the "Forbes" expedition against the French at Fort Duquesne. This expedition was full of hardships. He also participated in the bloody battle of Bushy Run, an account of which forms an interesting chapter in the history of that period.

Colonel George Washington, in command of the Virginia troops, took part in this "Forbes" expedition and doubtless it was here that he formed such an acquaintance with Adjutant de Haas that led him, eighteen years later, when placed in command of the Continental Army, to petition Congress to appoint him Colonel of a Regiment.

There was a very heated discussion among the commanding officers as to the route to be taken on this "Forbes" expedition. The troops were assembled at Raystown, now Bedford, and Washington favored marching back thirty-four
miles to Fort Cumberland and proceed thence by way of the Braddock Road, but Forbes, Bouquet and Armstrong decided, as a military necessity, to cut a new and shorter road, which later proved a very wise decision. Colonel Armstrong, in a letter dated October 3, 1758, to Richard Peters, says: "Col. Washington was a good deal sanguine and obstinate upon the occasion."

On April 28, 1760, Adjutant de Haas was promoted to Captain in the Pennsylvania Regiment under Colonel James Burd, and was stationed at Fort Henry, an important Post commanding a Pass in the Kittochtinny Mountains, near Millersburg, Berks County. On June 9, 1764, he was promoted to Major of the Pennsylvania Regiment, First Battalion, commanded by Colonel Turbot Francis, and with his regiment served under Colonel Bouquet in his second expedition to Fort Duquesne or Pittsburgh. In a letter dated August 22, 1764, to Governor Penn, Colonel Bouquet says: "The Field Officers of the Two Batts. are much to blame to have neglected to send you the List and description of their Deserters which cannot be done at present with any precision. Col. Francis, Major de Haas and several Companies have marched to Pittsburgh. I will inclose you what List I can obtain until we join again."

On the return of this expedition they brought back to Carlisle a large number of women and children, who had been carried off during a long period of years by the Indians, and among the number was the girl Regina, then about nineteen years of age, who had been carried away when she was only five or six years old; she no longer remembered her name, did not recognize her mother nor did the mother recognize her child. The Colonel then suggested that the mother sing one of the hymns she sang to her children, and the mother sang "Allein und doch nicht ganz allein," which hymn Regina at once remembered and flew to the arms of her mother.

The identity of this girl Regina has formed an interesting topic for discussion by neighboring County Historical Societies, in which discussion our President, Capt. H. M. M. Richards, and our Secretary, Dr. S. P. Heilman, have had the final and convincing word.
The return of this expedition marked the close of the French and Indian War, in which Major de Haas served continuously seven years.

With other Provincial Officers, he shared in the land grants on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River, and for his services was allotted a tract of land containing eight hundred and nine acres on Bald Eagle Creek, a half mile below the mouth of Beech Creek. He also purchased of his brother officers several tracts, Captain William Piper’s allotment of five hundred and fifty-three acres at the mouth of Beech Creek, which he called his “Henrietta” tract, named after his daughter; Captain Conrad Bucher’s tract of five hundred and seventy acres, which includes the mouth of Beech Creek, and Lieutenant James Foster’s tract, two tracts west of Captain Bucher’s.

His son, Lieutenant John Philip, moved from Philadelphia upon these lands early in the last century.

INTERVAL BETWEEN THE CLOSE OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR AND THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

On April 1, 1765, George Steitz sold to John Philip de Haas Lot No. 87 on the general plan of the town of Lebanon, described as follows: Containing in front on Market Street, four perches, in depth on Cumberland Street, twelve perches, bounded on the east by Market Street, on the south by Cumberland Street, on the west by Partridge Alley, and on the north by a lot of ground of George Dietrich, now the property of Robert Coleman, Esq.

The character of the house to be built on the lot was specified in the deed, and it stands today a fine example of colonial architecture, substantial workmanship, a landmark of colonial days, and an ornament to the city.

Here he resided until 1779, when he moved to Philadelphia, and on April 16, 1791, Eleanor de Haas and John Philip de Haas, executors of his will, sold the house and lot to John Gloninger, in whose family it yet remains.

After the close of the French and Indian War, Major de
Haas was not destined to remain long a private citizen, for on the 31st of July, 1765, representation was made to Governor John Penn that “The Inhabitants of the town of Lebanon in Lancaster County, were put to great Inconveniences for want of a Magistrate among them, there being none within Twenty Miles of that Town, and Mr. John Philip de Haas being recommended as a proper person, the Governor issued a special Commission appointing him Justice of the Peace and of the County Court of Common Pleas for the County of Lancaster.”

He held this office for ten years until the outbreak of the Revolutionary War.

In these early days our country was overrun with many desperate, drunken, dangerous and lawless men, men even more desperate and lawless than the desperadoes of our later frontier days, and that the Office of Justice of the Peace and of the County Court in those days was not the peaceful office that it is today, is forcibly evidenced by his Deposition on the 26th day of September, 1770, before Thomas Willing, Esquire, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, in which he relates the arrest, by one of his Constables, of one Lazarus Stewart, charged with the capital crime of arson, for whose arrest a warrant had been issued by Judge Lawrence, and of his rescue by armed friends, wherein the Constable was knocked down and beaten in an unmerciful manner and his own life threatened with club and pistol.

ORGANIZATION OF THE “CEDAR FIRE COMPANY”

On July 17, 1773, all the inhabitants of the town of Lebanon were notified to assemble at the house of Philip Greenawalt in order “voluntarily to consult with reference to organizing a Fire Company,” at which meeting Articles to govern the Company named “Cedar Fire Company” were drawn up by Philip Marsteller, and read in the English language and afterwards in the German. These Articles were adopted and subscribed to by the 45 persons present at the meeting, the name of John Philip de Haas, Esq., being fourth on the list. Among the list of subscribers appear the following well known
family names of today: Philip Greenawalt, Christopher Uhler, Michael Miller, George Gebhard, Henry Reinoehl, Rudolph Kelker, Peter Schindel, Henry Schantz, John Dubs and George Stine. The Articles of Association were printed and also contained the names of all who at that time subscribed themselves as members and a copy handed to each member.*

EARLY REVOLUTIONARY AGITATION

The arbitrary act of the British Parliament in closing the Port of Boston in 1774 caused intense excitement throughout the country, and the following prompt action was taken thereon by the citizens of Lebanon:

Resolutions on the Closing of the Port of Boston

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of Lebanon and the adjoining townships on Saturday, 25th, of June, 1774, holden at the house of Capt. Greenawalt, whereof Major John Philip de Haas was chairman, to take into serious consideration the State of public affairs, it was unanimously declared and resolved,

1st. That the late act of the British Parliament by which the Port of Boston is shut up, is an act oppressive to the people of that city and subversive to the rights of the inhabitants of America.

2nd. That while we profess to be loyal subjects of Great Britain, we shall not submit to unjust and iniquitous laws, as we are not slaves, but freemen.

3rd. That we are in favor of a Congress of Deputies who will act in behalf of the people for obtaining a redress of grievances.

4th. That we will unite with the inhabitants of other portions of our Country in such measures as will preserve to us our rights and Liberties.

5th. That our Countrymen of the city of Boston have our sincerest sympathy, that their cause is the common cause of America.

6th. That Messrs. Philip Greenawalt, Thomas Clark, Michael Ley, Killian Long and Curtis Grubb be a committee to collect contributions for our suffering brethren."

Jacob Light.
Secretary.

J. P. de Haas.
Chairman.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The opening gun of the Revolutionary War was fired on April 18, 1775, at Lexington, and immediately the whole country was aroused and military preparations everywhere began.

Early in May of that year, on his own responsibility and without a commission, Major de Haas raised a company of militia and was ready to march upon receipt of arms and orders.

The Hebron Moravian Church Diary contains the following note:

"1775, May 14—From Wednesday of last week up to the end of this week, our whole neighborhood has presented a warlike appearance especially was there great excitement in town, so that there was no other course left for our brethren, they were obliged to register themselves. However they all went to de Haas, who has no commission, but has by himself organized a company. Thus finally they obtained quiet."

In a letter dated August 28th, he states that his company consisted of 115 men, "all the respectable Persons in this Town."

In the Fall of 1775 John Bull had been elected Colonel of the First Pennsylvania Battalion, but owing to trouble with the Officers of the Battalion he resigned on January 20, 1776, and Congress on the 22nd of February, 1776, elected John Philip de Haas Colonel of the same to rank from January 22nd.

His Battalion had already been put under marching orders and on the 19th of January dispatched to Canada, so that by the 14th of February five Companies had passed Albany. General Schuyler says: "They were much thinned by sickness and desertion, and came very ill provided; the better half of their arms required repairs, and the whole were to be furnished with shoes, socks, mittens, etc."

Colonel de Haas, appointed on the 22nd of February, 1776, did not leave Lebanon to join his regiment until two weeks later, as we learn by further mention in the Hebron Diary, as follows.
1776 March 3d. (Sunday) Mr. de Haas came before preaching and bade Brother Bader an affectionate farewell. In pursuance of his call, he will leave next Wednesday for Philadelphia, and from there as Colonel of the First Battalion, he will travel to Quebec.

1776 March 7th. Early this morning Mr. de Haas, with a strong escort, passed here on his journey. He gave another look at the house, saw Brother and Sister Bader, and once more they sent each other a cordial greeting.

On April 18th he was at Merrit’s Tavern with Baron de Woldtke, where, on account of the Lakes being not yet open, they were ordered by General Schuyler to await further orders.

On the 24th of May, 1776, the British Commander Foster seriously threatened the capture of General Arnold and his forces at Lachine. On the 25th, about eight o’clock A. M., Colonel de Haas, who had been detached from the Sorel, with four companies, came up and relieved Arnold, causing Foster to retreat, following him to Fort Allen, at the head of Montreal Island.

On the 30th General Arnold issued a peremptory order to de Haas to cross the Grand River at the head of Montreal Island, and destroy the Indian Village of Cannadago, but de Haas called a Council of War, that disapproved of the enterprise, and fell back to Lachine, and from there to Montreal.

On the 15th of June General Arnold received advice that Carleton’s forces were at Varenne, on the south bank of the St. Lawrence River, fourteen miles from Montreal, whereupon Arnold hastily crossed the river the same night with his troops, including de Haas’ detachment, and made a march of 26 miles in one day to St. John’s. Here for the first time all of the companies of the Pennsylvania Battalion were united as a Battalion, for, as General Sullivan writes on the 8th of June from Sorel:

“Genl. Arnold has kept de Haas’ detachment dancing between this place and Montreal ever since my arrival.”

The term of enlistment of the First Pennsylvania Battalion was to expire on the 27th of October, as did that of several
other regiments, and this fact caused General Washington considerable worry and anxiety, as is shown in the following letter written by him from

"HEADQUARTERS, HEIGHTS OF HARLEM, September 20, 1776.

"It is a melancholy and painful consideration to those who are concerned in the work and have command, to be forming armies constantly, and to be left by troops just when they begin to deserve the name, or perhaps at a moment when an important blow is expected. This, I am informed, will be the case at Ticonderoga with part of the troops there, unless some system is immediately come into, by which they can be induced to stay. General Schuyler tells me in a letter received yesterday, that de Haas', Maxwell's, and Wind's regiments stand engaged only until the beginning of next month, and that the men, he is fearful, will not remain longer than the time of their enlistment."

Happily, however, and no doubt much to the gratification of General Washington, this did not prove to be the case with the First Pennsylvania Battalion, for we find that at the request of General Gates, Colonel de Haas' Battalion remained three weeks longer for the defence and security of Ticonderoga, for which the General thanked them in General Orders on the 14th.

On the 13th of November the Battalion was taken off duty at Ticonderoga and ordered to embark the next morning for Fort George.

A return dated at Ticonderoga on October 26th shows the regiment to be short two hundred and forty-five men and

"The arms in tolerable order but of different caliber. The Accoutrements bad, many bayonets wanting. The men almost naked, and have been so two-thirds of the campaign. Their clothing, when they marched from Philadelphia, being very scanty, and not a second shirt to their backs. The pitiful supply of sundry articles which they required since, were bad of the kind, and at most exorbitant prices. On our arrival at the Isle Aux Nois, after the retreat from Quebec, the regiment mustered upwards of five hundred rank and file fit for duty. By comparing the above return with the then state of the regiment, it will appear that they have suffered from the excessive fatigue they have gone through: the want of proper clothing to cover, and the want of blankets and tents to shelter them from the weather. To this day, we have not tents sufficient for two-thirds of the men, and those we have, were old when we received them. A regimental
Commissary and Paymaster is unknown to us. (The latter I have been myself.) The Quartermaster has never been enabled by the public to support the regiment in a proper manner. After the hardships of a winter campaign in Canada, with those they have since experienced, there is not the least reason to think that any of the men will re-enlist at this place. But the merit of those Officers who can afford and choose to continue in the service on the present inadequate terms will be best determined after the expected attack."

J. P. de Haas, Colonel.

"X. B. Captain Nelson’s company of riflemen is willing to continue in the service of the First Pennsylvania Regiment."

The regiment arrived at New Germantown in New Jersey on the 8th of December, General St. Clair coming along down with it to join General Washington.

On a return of his Officers, with the dates of their commissions, etc., dated Philadelphia, January 10, 1777, the Colonel endorses:

"This is to certify, that during the time I had the honor to command the above gentlemen, they behaved themselves like gentlemen, and as became good soldiers."

This Battalion became the nucleus for the formation of the Second Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line, of which Colonel de Haas was commissioned Brigadier General on the 21st of February, 1777, which regiment he commanded until the close of the year, when he retired from active service in the field and was on detached duty at Lebanon.

In the summer of the year 1778 the Indians began a series of murders and other outrages in the Wyoming Valley and upon hearing of these depredations, the General addressed the following letter to

The Honorable Richard Peters, Esq.
Member of the Board of War.
Philadelphia.  

Lebanon, Pa., July 13th, 1778.

Sirs:—

Upon frequently learning that the Indians were committing murders and other outrages at Wyoming, I desired Colonel Grubb to send an Express to Colonel Hunter to know the certainty, he is returned from Garber’s Mill above Harper’s Ferry and brings the enclosed intelligence.
I would immediately oppose them with a number of men which I think highly expedient, but as such measures ought not to be prosecuted without instructions, I would be much obliged to you to let me know the sentiments of the Hon'ble the Board of War upon the occasion.

If it is agreeable, send me power to draw ammunition for the purpose.

I am sir, your
most obed't and humble Serv't,

J. P. de Haas.

The Board of War acted immediately on the communication and on July 16th wrote to

Hon'ble George Bryan, Esq.

Vice President, as follows:

The enclosed letter from Genl. de Haas, we send for your perusal. We propose desiring him to march with all the men he can collect, and to give him orders to draw ammunition and other necessaries for the purpose. This voluntary offer of Gen. de Haas gives us great pleasure, we doubt not it will prove beneficial to the numbers who join him; and trust it will meet the approbation of the Council, we wish indeed he had not waited for orders, but marched immediately with all the force he could draw together, for the incursions of Indians are so sudden and rapid, that a county must be exposed to utter devastation, unless the Militia rush out at once where danger threatens, without waiting formal orders of Supreme Power, which must unavoidably be attended with great delays.

We are sir, your most obed't Servants,

By order of the Board,

Tim Pickering,

Vice President Bryan the same day wrote to Col. Gallbraith at Lancaster as follows:

Colonel Pickering in the name of the Board of War, has this day communicated to Council a letter from Gen. de Haas offering his services in leading a body of volunteers against the Indians.

Council applaud the spirit of the Gentleman on this occasion, and wish you to give him your utmost countenance. They rejoice to find an officer of weight and experience, stepping forth in defence of the country. I am sir,

Your most Obd'lı Serv't,

George Bryan, Vice Pres'lt.

No time was lost after receipt of these orders, and in less than a week he was on the ground and had his men stationed.
In the meantime, and while these preparations were going on, General Arnold, who was in command of the Regular troops, hearing of these Indian depredations, and not knowing of the local arrangements for the protection of the County, and that a General Officer was already on the ground with a detachment of Militia, sent Colonel Hartley, with a detachment of Regulars to the scene. Upon his arrival General de Haas gave over command of the situation to Colonel Hartley.

The latter reported to the Board of War on August 7th, as follows:

"General de Haas came up here with an intention of assisting and supporting the people, he was successful in these particulars, he gave directions concerning the Militia, and those that were arrived were well disposed of (in my opinion), according to my instructions I have taken command. The General's zeal on this occasion has been of advantage; he will, I believe as soon as he is better of the Gout, return to Lebanon. The stores he furthered on from there were much wanted."

There is no further record of military service that I can find. The following year he removed to Philadelphia, presumably for business reasons, although it may be, as Egle presumes, in order to be rid of the annoyance caused him by enemies he had made when in military command, for he seems to have been a strict disciplinarian and naturally must have made enemies.

Of his business pursuits in Philadelphia I have been unable to learn anything. That he owned considerable real estate there and elsewhere, and had considerable personal property, including slaves, is evidenced by his Will, which disposes of his entire property in great detail.

His death occurred on June 3, 1786.

A fitting closing to this sketch might be the closing paragraph in Egle's Biographic sketch of de Haas:

"Whatever may be said of Gen. de Haas' sternness, it was due to his being an excellent disciplinarian. He was a faithful, brave and gallant Officer and one whom fame cannot let die."
ADDENDA

GENEALOGY

(Copied from the Records of the de Haas family at Strassburg, France, in 1862, and furnished by Mrs. F. S. Smith, of Lock Haven, Pa.)

The original name of the family was Von Haas. When this Province was annexed to France, the name was changed to de Haas.

In 1549, Charles de Haas acquired large possessions near the City of Strassburg, France, and became the founder of the French noble family of that name.

He was a Baron and General under Emperor Rudolf. Took the City of Florence, Italy, and was made Governor of Central Italy, and authorized to appropriate the Arms of the "City of Florence" as his Coat of Arms.

Rev. Charles J. Dickey.


The de Haas family is of German origin, the original name being Von Haas (or Hass) there were three families.

Count Von Haas of Saxony.

Count Von Haas of Reichstadt, and

Baron Charles Von Haas of Brandenburg, Prussia.

In 1549, General Charles de Haas removed to Strassburg, and became the founder of the French noble family of that name, after the junction of the Dukedom of Alsace to France.

The family Arms are of the City of Florence, being awarded to Baron Charles de Haas for the conquest of Italy, by the Emperor Rudolf.

The Arms are quite beautiful, the motto is,

"FIDEI CITRICOE LA CRON"

General John Philip de Haas, Washington's General, was of this branch.

BIOGRAPHY

Drake's Am. Bioj.

de Haas, John Philip, Brigadier General Revolutionary Army. Born in Holland about 1735, died at Philada. about 1794. (1786) Descended
from an ancient family of Northern France, and in 1750 (1759) accompanying his father to America, settling in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. An Ensign in the old French War, and in August 1763 participated in the bloody conflict with the Indians at Bushy Run, near Pittsburgh. Appointed Colonel of First Pennsylvania Regiment, January 22d, 1776, served in Canada and at Ticonderoga; took part in the Battle of Long Island and was promoted February 21st, 1777, to Brigadier General, and served in various capacities with credit until close of the war.

The latter years of his life were passed in Philadelphia. A son served as Ensign in his own regiment.

* * *


General John Philip de Haas, was born in Holland in 1735, and came with his Father to America and located in Lebanon. He entered the military of the Province as an ensign under General Armstrong, in the Kittanning expedition, serving also under Colonels Burd and Bouquet, in their expeditions against the hostile Indians.

He was promoted to the rank of Major in 1764. At the outbreak of the Revolution he at once tendered his services to the Colonial Government, and was commissioned in 1776, Colonel of the First Battalion and participated in the Long Island campaign.

In 1777 he was promoted by Congress to the rank of Brigadier General and remained in the service throughout the war.

His son, John Philip de Haas, Jr., a Lieutenant in the Revolution, located on the military lands of his father at Beech Creek in Clinton County, where he died in 1826.

It is said that General de Haas prided himself on his noble ancestry and used a seal that may enable Heraldists to connect his family.

"Between two wings displayed a Stag springing and at the bottom of the shield a Stag courant."

* * *

* Hist. Centre Co. Linn, Bellefonte.

de Haas, John Philip. Died in Bald Eagle township, Sept. 23, 1826. His father Gen. John Philip de Haas, had been a Major in Lieut. Col. Francis' Battalion under Col. Bouquet in 1764, and for his services drew a tract of land containing eight hundred and nine acres on Bald Eagle Creek, a half mile below the mouth of Beech Creek.

He also purchased of his brother Officers several tracts, Captain William Piper's allotment at the mouth of Beech Creek, five hundred and fifty-three acres, which he called after his daughter Henrietta; the Capt. Conrad Bucher tract, which includes the mouth of Beech
Creek, five hundred and seventy acres; the Lieut. James Foster tract, two tracts west of Capt. Bucher's, etc.

Major de Haas became a Colonel during the Revolution, and commanded the First Pennsylvania Battalion in Canada in 1776, to which his son, the subject of this sketch, was appointed an Ensign by Gen. Gates, Aug. 6, 1776. John Philip, Jr., was a boy at school and did not join his regiment. He was appointed to second Lieutenant of the Second Pennsylvania of the Continental Line, but probably did not join his regiment.

His father was promoted to Brigadier General, but served a short time; settled in Philadelphia, and died there June 3, 1786.

* * *

Biog. & Gen. Hist.
Lebanon Co., Pa.

Gen. John Philip de Haas, son of John Nicholas de Haas, was born about 1735 in Holland. His father emigrated to Pennsylvania a year or two thereafter, for on the 28th of March, 1739, he took out a warrant for one hundred and fifty acres of land in Lebanon township, then Lancaster, now Lebanon County, Pa.

He was brought up on his father's pioneer farm, but must have received the rudiments of a fair German and English education, for we find him in early life as an officer during the French and Indian War.

He was commissioned ensign of the Provincial Battalion of Pennsylvania, Governor William Denny commanding, December, 1757; Adjutant of the First Battalion, Col. John Armstrong, April 30, 1758; Captain of the Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. James Burd, April 28, 1760; and Major of the Pennsylvania regiment commanded by Governor John Penn, First Battalion, Col. Turbitt Francis, June 9, 1764, and served under General Bouquet in the expedition of 1763, and shared with the other provincial officers in the land grants on the West Branch.

His son, John Philip, moved upon this land early in the present century (now last century) and his descendants are very numerous, in both Clinton and Centre Counties.

In June, 1764, Maj. de Haas was in command of Fort Henry, an important post, guarding a pass through the Kittochtinny Hills.

From 1765 to 1775, he resided at Lebanon "as one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for ye County of Lancaster" and was also interested in the iron business in that neighborhood.

When the Revolution opened he became very ardent in the cause, and was on the Committee of Observation for Lebanon township.

When the First Pennsylvania Battalion was raised in the fall of 1775, John Bull was elected Colonel by Congress. He resigned, how-
ever, owing to some trouble with the officers of the Battalion, on the 20th of January, 1776, and Congress, on the 22nd of February, elected John Philip de Haas, of Lebanon, Colonel of the same, to rank from January 22nd. By a letter, under date January 6th, 1776, we find that he was busily recruiting at that time, the men being merged into the First Battalion, but the rolls of the command are so meagre that no positive information can be gathered as to the companies raised at Lebanon.

At the date referred to gunsmiths at Lebanon were at work upon his muskets, but were delayed by the non-arrival of the gun barrels from Lancaster.

His command was in the Northern campaign of 1776, and partook of the privations and sufferings of that futile attempt to call to the aid of the Colonies the inhabitants of Canada, their loyalty to British interests was unquestioned.

Col. de Haas' testimony as to his Officers will apply to himself. "This is to certify that during the time I had the honor to command the above gentlemen, they behaved themselves like gentlemen and as became good soldiers."

His Battalion became the nucleus for the formation of the Second Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line, of which Col. de Haas was commissioned Colonel October 25th, 1776. On the 21st of February, 1777, he was promoted by Congress to Brigadier General.

He appears to have been in continuous service until the close of 1778, when he appears to have been out of the army. It was then that his enemies, those upon whom he had possibly been severe to when in military command, sought through the law to annoy and worry him. He was out of office, and to rid himself of these tormentors removed to Philadelphia in 1779. We have no knowledge of his business there. He died in that city on the 3rd of June, 1786, leaving his wife, Eleanore, and his son, John Philip, as the executors of his estate.

The latter was an Ensign in his father's regiment during the Revolution, and the similarity of names has caused some confusion with biographers.

Whatever may be said of Gen. de Haas' sternness, it was due to his being an excellent disciplinarian. He was a faithful, brave and gallant officer, and one whom fame cannot let die.

APPOINTED JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Col. Rec. 1: 10.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Wednesday the 31st, July, 1765. Present. The Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant, etc., Benjamin Chew, Lynford Lordner, and Richard Penn, Esquires.
The Board represented to the Governor that the inhabitants of the Town of Lebanon in Lancaster County, were put to great Inconveniences for want of a Magistrate among them, there being none within Twenty Miles of that town, and Mr. John Philip de Haas being recommended as a proper person, the Governor issued a special commission appointing him Justice of the Peace and of the County Court of Common Pleas for the County of Lancaster.

COPY OF COMMISSION

Lan. Co. C. H.

THE HONBLE. JOHN PENN, ESQR. &c.

George the third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France & Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c. To John Philip de Haas of the County of Lancaster in the Province of Pennsylvania Esquire Greeting. Reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Integrity & Ability, Know that we have assigned you one of our Justices our Peace in the County of Lancaster aforesaid to keep and all Laws and Statutes made for the Good of our Peace and for the conservation of the same to keep and cause to be kept and to chastize and punish all Persons offending against the Laws and Statutes within the said County as the Laws doth or shall direct Giving hereby and granting unto you the said John Philip de Haas full Power and Authority to execute and perform all the several Acts and Things which any Justice of our Peace in the County of Lancaster aforesaid by the General Commission assigned lawfully can may or ought to do as fully & amply as if your name had amongst other the Justices in the said General Commission nominated been particularly inserted and expressed. And we have also assigned you the said John Philip de Haas one of the Justices of the County Court of Common Pleas for the said County of Lancaster to hear and determine all & all manner of Pleas, Actions, Suits & Causes, civil, personal, real and mixed, now depending or which shall hereafter be commenced in the said Court according to Law, and generally to do & cause to be done all the several Matters & Things which any Justice of the Peace and of the County Court of Common Pleas for the said County can or may lawfully do acting always therein that which to Justice according to Law shall appertain.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the Great Seal of our said Provence to be hereto affixed. Witness John Penn Esquire by virtue of a Commission from Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires, true & absolute Proprietaries of the Province aforesaid and with our Royal
Approbation Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the said Provence and Counties of New Castle, Kent & Sussex on Delaware, at Philadelphia the thirty first Day of July 1765, in the fifth Year of our Reign.

John Penn.

DEPOSITION OF MARY TROTTER

In poss'n. of Rev. Chas. A. Dickey.

Lancaster County, Pa.

Before me John Philip de Haas, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County personally came and appeared Mary Trotter and being Duly Sworn Deposeth and saith that on the day of this Instant in the Town of Lebanon she spoke with John Herald who she saw was much abused and that he told this Depon't he was the day before in the town of Heidelberg and was very much abused and had reed. Wounds from a Jew in the said Town of Heidelberg and that if it had not been for the assistance of his Tavern Keeper where he did eat his dinner the same day he believed & said that he thought he would have been killed by the said Jew in the street and further this Dept. saith not.

Mary Trotter.

Sworn before me the 18th Octo. 1768. J. P. de Haas.

MINUTES OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1770.

Col. Rec.
Vol. 9.

The Governor sent by the Secretary a written Message to the Assembly, (with the Deposition of John Philip de Haas, Esquire,) which follows in these words, viz:

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR TO THE ASSEMBLY

Gentlemen:—I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you the Deposition John Philip de Haas, Esquire, one of the Justices of the Peace of the County of Lancaster, by which you will perceive that, in Consequence of a Warrant some time ago issued by John Lawrence, Esquire, one of the Supreme Judges of this Provence, for the apprehending of Lazarus Stewart, Lazarus Young, and Zebulon Butler, charged with the crime of Arson, (an offence made Capital by Act of Assembly,) the said Stewart having been arrested on the fifteenth day of this Instant, rescued himself, with the Assistance of a Number
of lawless People who joined him, and not only beat the Constable who arrested him, but abused and threatened the said de Haas in the Execution of his Office as a Justice, in the most violent manner.

I shall order Prosecutions to be carried on against the Rescuers, who I hope will be brought to Justice in the common Course of legal proceedings, but, as the principal Offenders will probably, as they have hitherto done, set the Laws at defiance, and make it dangerous to apprehend them, I think it expedient, for the sake of Public Justice and the Honor of the Government, that a Reward should be offered for taking them, in which I make no doubt I shall have your Concur-

rence.

September 27th, 1770.
The Deposition follows in these words, viz:

Philadelphia, to wit:

On the twenty sixth day of September, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy, before me, Thomas Willing, Esquire, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, of the Proven of Pennsylvania, personally appeared John Philip de Haas, of the Township of Lebanon, in Lancaster County, Esquire, one of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace of the County of Lancaster, who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangel of Almighty God, deposed and saith, that he, the said Deponent, on the fifteenth day of September Instant, delivered to Frederich Buhlman, Constable of Lebanon aforesaid, a Warrant for John Lawrence, Esq., one of His Majesty’s Judges of the Supreme Court of this Provence, directed to all the civil Officers of the Provence, for apprehending Lazarus Stewart, Lazarus Young, and Zebulon Butler, and bringing them before him, or one other of the Judges of the Supreme Court, to answer a certain Charge made on Oath against them of burning Houses, and other misdemeanors, said to be committed in the County of Northampton, in the Provence aforesaid, and the said Constable thereupon, about ten o’clock of the same day, arrested the said Lazarus Stewart in Lebanon in the Deponents Presence; that the said Deponent, understanding that the said Stewart was a dangerous turbulent Man, & apprehending a Rescue might be attempted, employed three men to assist the Con-
stable to convey him down the Country, promising them a Reward of five pounds to each of them if they accomplished it; that the said Stewart, being encouraged by Messages from William Stoy, as this Deponent has been informed, and Verily believes endeavored to retard as much as he could, there setting off, and at length found means to intimidate the Persons employed to assist the Constable, so that they went away, leaving the Constable to do as he would; that the Deponent being informed of this, endeavored to procure other Assistance, but
while so employed, Word was brought to him that the said Stewart had rescued himself, with the assistance of one Matthias Mause, a Nephew of the said Stoy, who gave the said Stewart the handle of an Axe, with which he had knocked down the Constable & beat him in a Cruel and Unmerciful manner; that thereupon this Deponent went to the place where the said Stewart was, and called to sundry of the inhabitants who were there standing, and had been Witnesses to the aforesaid out rageous Proceeding, charging them in His Majesty's Name to assist him, the Deponent, and the said constable in retaking the said Stewart, at the same time acquainting them with the Crimes of which he was charged, and for which he was in the Constable's Custody; that none of the Inhabitants would obey the Deponent, some of them being friends and abettors of Stewart and the rest afraid; that the said Stewart stepped forward with a Club in his Hand, and abused the Deponent in the most opprobrious Terms, and the Deponent despairing of Assistance, and understanding that a number of Stewart's Friends were expected from the Country, and apprehending from his threats, that great Mischief and Disturbance would ensue, thought proper to retire, exhorting the people in the most earnest manner to preserve the Peace, and prevent any riotous proceedings; that about an hour after the rescue, a Party of Armed Men, to the number of twenty or thereabouts, rode into the Town of Lebanon, and joined the said Stewart, who soon after came towards the said Deponent then walking before his own door, and with much Scurrility and Abuse, with a Pistol in one hand and a club in the other, threatened him for procuring him to be arrested, and Deponent finding it necessary to defend himself, retired into his house and got his Pistols; that the said Stewart endeavored to follow him into the house, but one of the Family fastening the door, prevented him; that the said Stewart afterwards called on the Deponent to come and take him, and said that there was long ago two hundred Pounds Reward offered for him (alluding as the Deponent understood, to the said Stewart's being one of the persons concerned in Murdering the Indians in Lancaster Goal, for taking of whom a reward was offered by this Government), that the said Deponent was informed by Nicholas Hausaker, Innkeeper in Lebanon aforesaid, that the said Stewart afterwards came to the said Hausaker's, and threatened that if he ever would obey the Orders of the Deponent in taking, or assisting to take the said Stewart, or any of his Company, he, the said Stewart, would cut him to pieces, and make a breakfast of his Heart; and this Deponent saith that the said Stewart and his Company rode off in triumph; and further this Deponent saith not.

Sworn before me, the day and year before written.

THOS. WILLING, (L. S.)

J. P. DE HAAS.
MEMORIAL TO THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY

Col. Rec.
Vol. 10.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY

Philadelphia. September 26th, 1775.

John Philip de Haas having presented a Memorial to this Board relative to some disputes subsisting between Colo. Grubb of Lancaster County & him respecting the division of said Colo. Grubb's Battalion:

The Committee taking the same into consideration. Do

Resolve, That it be recommended to the Committee of Lancaster County, to hear the matter in dispute between Colo. Grubb and Major de Haas, and determine it agreeable to the regulations published by this Board for establishing Rank and precedence amongst the Pennsylvania Associators; & it is also recommended to those Gentlemen to refer their disputes to said Committee, but subject to an appeal to this Board if the parties think proper, who may agree upon a day to attend, most suitable to them.

Dear Sir:—

Whereas all officers above the rank of a Captain are appointed by the Committee of Safety, and as so many irregular steps have been taken making some field officers, it is my duty to give you one instance thereto: five companies wrote to me to be their Colonel. I visited them from time to time. Mr. Curtis Grubb, persuaded by William Stoy, Philip Marsteller, Robert Patton, and sundry ill-grounded Persons, gathered the officers, in the night time, unknown to me and to any of my Company, turn coats, made Curtis Grubb Colonel. Charl Stuart Lieut. Colonel, Philip Marsteller Major, no officers voted who had but three men in their Companies, now the soldiers seeing the mean spirit of their officers, despise them and refuse to do duty, still they are Colonels and Majors with a very few men and I wont interfere, and keep my Company which consists of 115 men, all the respectable Persons in this Town, with two other Companies to join me, but I will make no disturbance, and disregard (illegible) therefore think it would be unjust if these persons should be put above me, by right they ought to have no Commission. As you are well acquainted with the Gentleman who settles this matter I beg your assistance, as I am willing to do all in my power for the good of the Country in which I live.

Since I am at home there is peace in the neighborhood, before they were ready to cut one another's throat, Mr. Curtis Grubb made nothing of running on a naked man with his sword, and most killed one of our Townsmen for nothing at all, he is gone to the warm Spring for his health.
Stoy, who has openly declared that now is the time to get Revenge for old affairs, he and Philip Marsteller settles Mr. Grubb's military business.

I wrote you too much already worthy of your attention and as Cammel was here the other day, he can tell you the whole, if he please to remember it, my compliment to him. Mrs. Bidle is doing very well at the warm Spring. I am Sir

Your Most Humbl Servant
and Most Obt Servant
J. P. de Haas.

HEBBRON MORAVIAN CHURCH DIARY

Vol. 1 No. 1.

1775, May 14. From Wednesday of last week up to the end of this week, our whole neighborhood has presented a warlike appearance; especially was there great excitement in town, so that there was no other course left for our brethren, they were obliged to register themselves. However, they all went to de Haas, who has no commission, but has by himself organized a company. Thus finally they obtained quiet.

1776, March 3d. (Sunday) Mr. de Haas came before preaching and bade Brother Bader an affectionate farewell. In pursuance of his call, he will leave next Wednesday for Philadelphia, and from there, as Colonel of the First Battalion, he will travel to Quebec.

1776, March 7th. Early this morning Mr. de Haas, with a strong escort, passed here on his journey. He gave another look at the house, saw Brother and Sister Bader, and once more they sent each other a cordial greeting.

1777, December 16. Tuesday, Brother Bader had a visit from General de Haas and Dr. Kennedy, "Hospital Doctor" of the Army, who informed him that the Hessians would be removed, but the buildings would be used for the sick and wounded, and that he and his wife should leave. He protested and spoke particularly and forcibly with de Haas, who promised to do what he could.

1777, December 19th. As we heard today, de Haas is behind the whole matter, and wants to force us to leave the house. Sister Bader went to Sister Kucher, who embraced her warmly, with tears and related that she had given de Haas a terrible lecture.

Messengers were sent to de Haas from the congregation, and Baltho Orth, Jr., related how he and Adam had been to see de Haas and were received with all friendliness, he telling them that the occupancy of the house had not yet been decided upon, and expressing astonishment that the pastor has spoken so forcibly to him.
COPY OF LETTER DATED JANUARY 6th, 1776, REFERRED TO IN EGLE'S BIOGRAPHY. ORIGINAL IN POSSESSION OF MR. D. McN. STAUFFER.

LEBANON, January 6th, 1776.

Sir:—I have seen a notice of the Committee Appointed by Assembly to settle the Accounst of the several Battalions and Companies of Associates with respect to their disbursements for Drums, Etc.

I have a poor man who acted as flugelman, and one Drummer, one fifer and one Colors. If allowance will be made, and you think it proper to send this list with some of the others to Phila., I shall be obliged to you. How does the new associators go on with you and in Philada. Here are none to sign them. Our gunsmiths have twice been to Lancaster for Musket-barls, as they say can git non. Is it so or not.

Renew the writ of John Barr and let the Sheriff make a summons of it, and a summons for John Stahly £ 45.0.0

I wish you and your worthy family a happy New Year and that the Almighty God may preserve you in health and welfare and bless you on Body and Soul to his everlasting glory. This is the hearty wish of, Sir

Your most obedient
Humble Servant

J. P. de Haas.

To Jasper Yeats, Esq.
Lancaster.

FIRST PENNSYLVANIA BATTALION
Col. John Philip de Haas

1776

On the 22d of February, John Philip de Haas, of Lebanon, Penna. was elected Colonel by Congress. Col. de Haas had been a Major of the First Battalion, Col. Turbitt Francis, of the Pennsylvania regiment of Provincial forces, commanded by Col. Bouquet, in 1774. He was an officer of considerable experience, and was, at the time of his election, a Justice of the Peace of Lancaster County, of which Lebanon then formed a Part.

(Col. John Bull resigned command of the Battalion Jany. 20, 1776, and the Commission of Col. John Philip de Haas dated from Jany. 22, 1776.)
On the 19th, of January, Congress resolved that two companies of each battalion should be dispatched to Canada as soon as ready. This battalion was put under marching orders on the 19th.

By the 14th, Feb'y five companies of Col. de Haas' regiment had passed Albany. Genl. Schuyler says they were much thinned by sickness and desertion, and came very ill provided: the better half of their arms required repairs, and the whole were to be furnished with shoes, socks, mittens, etc.

On the 24th of May, the British Commander, Foster, with a part of the garrison at Detroit, and in conjunction with Indians and Canadians, numbering one thousand men, who had captured Col. Bedell's regiment, which was stationed at the Cedars, and defeated Major Sherburn, who was sent to release him, seriously threatened the capture of Arnold and his forces at Lachine. On the 25th about eight o'clock A. M. Col. de Haas, who had been detached from the Sorel, with Capts. Harmer, William Butler, Lamar and Capt. Nelson's company, one hundred and ten riflemen, and three hundred musketeers, came up and relieved Arnold, causing Foster to retreat following him to Fort Ann, at the head of Montreal Island.

On the 30th, Arnold issued a preemptory order to de Haas to cross the Grand River, at the head of Montreal Island, and destroy the Indian Village of Cannasadago, but de Haas called a council of War, that disapproved of the enterprise, and to the chagrin of most of his officers, and fell back to Lachine, and from thence to Montreal.

On the 15th of June, late in the evening, Gen. Arnold was advised by Capt. Wilkinson, whom he had sent to Sorel, that he had met Carlton's forces at Varenne, on the south bank of the St. Lawrence, fourteen miles below Montreal.

Arnold hastily crossed the river, the same night, with his troops including de Haas' detachment, to Longnenil, and made a march of twenty six miles in one day, by La Prairie, to St. John's, which he reached here on the 16th. Here, for the first time, all of the companies of the Penna. Battalion were united as a Battalion, for, as Genl. Sullivan writes on the 8th of June from Sorel.

"Genl. Arnold has kept de Haas' detachment dancing between this place and Montreal ever since my arrival." Col. de Haas' detachment with the Colonel, were the last that came up the Hudson and never reached Thomas or Quebec, where the rest of the Battalion with Lieut. Col. Irvine and Major Morris had been.

Its history, after this date, is the same as that of the Second Battalion, posted, until it was relieved from duty.
BARON DE WOEDTKE TO GENL. SCHUYLER

(From Emmet Collection, 8970; New York Public Library.)

Merrits Tavern, April 18th, 1776.

Dr. Sr.

Your favor of this day received. Have observ'd the Lakes are not yet open, and you advise Col. de Haas and me to remain here, on Account of the bad accommodations we are extremely much obliged to you for the advice, and shall wait your further orders.

I am Sr. with respect your humbl. sert.

Baron de Woedtke.

EXTRACTS FROM OFFICIAL LETTERS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON TO AMERICAN CONGRESS

(Vol. I, page 217)

Headquarters, Heights of Harlem, September 20, 1776.

"It is a melancholy and painful consideration to those who are concerned in the work and have command, to be forming armies constantly, and to be left by troops just when they begin to deserve the name, or perhaps at a moment when an important blow is expected. This, I am informed, will be the case at Tyconderoga with part of the troops there, unless some system is immediately come into, by which they can be induced to stay. General Schuyler tells me in a letter received yesterday, that De Haas's Maxwell's and Wind's regiments stand engaged only till the beginning of next month, and that the men, he is fearful, will not remain longer than the time of their enlistment."

* * *

(Vol. II, page 5)

May 10, 1777.

"I have not heard from general De Haas since his promotion. As soon as I was informed of it, I wrote and requested him to repair to camp; but having received no answer, I am apprehensive my letter miscarried. I wish Congress to give him notice of his appointment, and directions to join the army, if he accepts his commission and is not prevented by indisposition."

* * *

(Vol. II, page 80)

Headquarters, Middlebrook, June 13, 1777.

"I shall be glad to be informed whether general De Haas considers himself an officer in the army. He has never joined it since his promotion, or written a single line to me upon the subject. If he accepts
his commission it will be well for Congress to order him to repair to the army immediately. The brigade intended for him is without a general officer, and has brought on a disagreeable dispute between two of the colonels each claiming the command. This is not the only inconvenience:—officers of high rank remaining at home afford a bad example to others who are inferior, and grounds for application for the like indulgence.”

EXTRACTS FROM RETURN, DATED TICONDEROGA, OCTOBER 20, 1776

“The arms are in tolerable order, but of different caliber. The accoutrements had, many bayonets wanting. The men almost naked and have been two thirds of the campaign. Their clothing, when they marched from Philadelphia, being very scanty, and not a second shirt to their backs. The pitiful supplies of sundry articles which they have received since, were bad of the kind, and at most exorbitant prices.

On our arrival at the Isle Aux Noix, after the retreat from Quebec, the regiment mustered upwards of five hundred rank and file fit for duty. By comparing the above return with the state of the regiment, it will appear that they have suffered from the excessive fatigue they have gone through; the want of proper cover, and the want of blankets and tents to shelter them from the weather. To this day, we have not tents sufficient for two-thirds of the men, and those we have were old when we received them. A regiment commissary and paymaster is unknown to us. (The latter I have been myself.) The Quartermaster has never been enabled by the public to supply the regiment in a proper manner. After the hardships of a winter campaign in Canada, with those they have since experienced, there is not the least reason to think that any of the men will re-enlist at this place. The merit of those officers who can afford and choose to continue in the service on the present inadequate terms, will be best determined after the expected attack.

J. P. de Haas, Colonel.

“N. B.—Captain Nelson’s company of riflemen is willing to continue in the service in the First Pennsylvania regiment.”

On the 13th of November this battalion was taken off duty at Ticonderoga, and ordered to embark the next morning for Fort George.

It was raised, as appears by a note to the foregoing return, “to the 27th of October,” but remained three weeks longer, at Gen’l Gates’ request, for the defence and security of Ticonderoga, for which the Gen’l thanked them in general orders of the 14th. It was evident that the British had gone into winter quarters and would make no further attempts that fall to come southward.
Philadelphia, 20th December, 1776.

"Ordered, That Col. le Haas, and all the officers of his battalion who are in this city and who intend to continue in the service of the State, do apply to this council for recruiting orders, by Monday, 23d inst. and that Col. de Haas make return to this Council of all the officers of his battalion who intend to continue in the service on the new establishment, on Monday next, at ten. A. M."

On a return dated January 10, 1777 at Philadelphia, of his officers with the dates of their commissions, embracing the names of eight captains, sixteen first and second lieutenants, eight ensigns, the adjutant, quartermaster, surgeon and mate. Col. de Haas endorses:

"This is to certify, that during the time I had the honor to command the above gentlemen, they behaved themselves like gentlemen, and as became good soldiers."

This battalion became the nucleus for the formation of the Second Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line, October 25, 1776.

FROM THE ROSTER OF FIELD AND STAFF OFFICERS OF THE FIRST PENNA. BATTALION

Colons
Bull, John, commissioned November 25th, 1775; resigned Jan. 20, 1776.
de Haas, John Philip, commissioned January 22nd, 1776.

Ensins
de Haas, John Philip, Jr., appointed by Gen. Gates, August 6, 1776. Vice John Law, deceased. John Philip de Haas, Jr., was reappointed to the Second Penna. but he never joined the regiment. He died at Beech Creek in Clinton County, Pa. in August, 1826.

FROM THE ROSTER OF FIELD AND STAFF OFFICERS CONTINENTAL LINE SECOND PENNA.

Colons
de Haas, John Philip, from First Battalion; promoted Brigadier General, February 21, 1777.
SECOND LIEUTENANTS

de Haas, John Philip, Jr., from First Battalion; absent from November 3, 1776; died at Beech Creek, Clinton County, August 1826; buried in Hays' grave yard.

FROM LIST OF GENERAL OFFICERS PENNSYLVANIA LINE

BRIGADIER GENERALS

de Haas, John Philip, from Colonel of First Battalion, February 21, 1777. General de Haas commanded a brigade in May, 1777, but seems to have retired shortly after. He died in Philadelphia, June 3, 1786.

CONTINENTAL LINE.—SECOND PENNSYLVANIA

From First Battalion, under Colonel de Haas, who remained in command until his promotion to Brigadier General, the Second Pennsylvania was organized.

Major William Williams, from "Camp at Cross Roads, August 11, 1777, writes to the Supreme Executive Council, as follows:

"Gentlemen:—I enclose you a weekly return of the Second Pennsylvania. You will find there are three first lieutenants, two second lieutenants, and one ensign wanting to complete the subalterns. In a letter to the Hon. Board of War, I gave my reasons for not promoting the second lieutenants and ensigns in rotation. I would be glad if you would appoint gentlemen that would be fit to fill the place of first lieutenants, as those that come in rotation are too young.

"I think Gen'l de Haas' son should be left out, as I know no reason why he should receive pay, when he is not fit to take from school, he has been near a year appointed, and has never seen the regiment. I should be exceedingly glad if a Colonel could be appointed soon, as the regiment has suffered much by the different changes and intervals of commanding officers.

FIRST PENNSYLVANIA BATTALION

COL. JOHN PHILIP DE HAAS

Oct. 27, 1775—Nov. 13, 1776

Col. John Bull resigned on the 20th of Jan. 1776, in a communication to Congress, setting forth that he was ill-treated by many of the officers in his corps, and that near one half of them threatened to resign their commissions if he continued in command, which at a time when they
were under marching orders might be productive of bad consequence to
the service. He stated, also, that the circumstances would not alter his
conduct or abate his zeal, and whenever called upon again to serve
his country, he would, with the greatest pleasure, obey the summons.

* * *

On the 22nd of February, John Philip de Haas, of Lebanon, Pa.,
was elected colonel by Congress. Col. de Haas had been a major of
the First Battalion, Col. Turbett Francis, of the Pennsylvania regiment
of Provincial forces commanded by Col. Bouquet, in 1764. He was an
officer of considerable experience, and was, at the time of his election,
a justice of the peace of Lancaster County, of which Lebanon then
formed a part.

* * *

On the 19th of Jan., Congress resolved that two companies of each
battalion should be dispatched to Canada as soon as ready. This
battalion was put under marching orders on the 19th. Capt. Thomas
Dorsey’s company was among the first that started on the 22nd of Jan.,
and had already passed Albany, N. Y., on the 15th of Feb. Two
of his company deserted before he reached Albany, fourteen were left
in hospital there, and seven more left him on the first day’s march
therefrom.

By the 14th, five companies of Col. de Haas’ regiment had passed
Albany. Gen. Schuyler says they were much thinned by sickness and
desertion, and came very ill provided; the better half of their arms
required repairs, and the whole were to be furnished with shoes, socks,
mittens, etc.

These companies marched to New York, where they embarked in
sloops, which carried them up to Albany. From Albany they passed
on up the Hudson to Fort Edwards, which was situated on the west
bank of that river, forty-eight miles north of Albany; thence to Fort
William Henry, afterwards called Fort George, at the south end of
Lake George; thence in batteaux to the foot of the lake; thence they
marched across the portage two and one-half miles, to Fort Ticon-
deroga, which was on the western shore of Lake Champlain, near the
outlet of Lake George, and about ninety-seven miles north by east from
Albany; thence they sailed to Crown Point, five miles further, on the
same side of the lake.

Lake Champlain stretches one hundred and twenty miles to the
north, and pours its waters through the Sorel into the St. Lawrence
at Sorel, which is forty-five miles from Montreal and one hundred
and thirty-five miles from Quebec. This lake was commanded by the
Fortresses of Ticonderoga and Crown Point. Passing down Lake
Champlain in sailing vessels in those days ordinarily St. Johns was
reached in two or three days, passing Isle Aux Noix on the way, which
was twelve miles south of St. Johns.
St. Johns is situated on the west shore of the river Sorel, or Richelieu, at the head of Champlain canal, and at the foot of the navigable waters of Lake Champlain, distant from Montreal twenty-seven miles and Champlain twelve.

From Champlain, Montreal, lies a little north of west, eighteen miles, a line drawn between the two places forming the base of a triangle formed by the rivers St. Lawrence and Sorel, the apex of which is at Sorel, forty-five miles or thereabouts, from either point. La Chine was up the St. Lawrence, in a southeast direction nine miles, on Montreal Island, on the north side of the river, and directly across the river from La Chine, on the south side, was the Indian village of Caughnawaga. The Cedars was up the same river, near the rapids of the same name, and twenty-nine miles from Montreal, on the north side of the river.

From Sorel, at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and Richelieu, to Trois River, or Three Rivers, the distance is forty-five miles down the St. Lawrence. Three Rivers is situated at the mouth of the St. Maurice river, west side, and north side of St. Lawrence, equi-distant ninety miles from Montreal and Quebec. To Deschambault, which is also on the north side of the St. Lawrence, it is forty-two miles from Three Rivers, and from Deschambault to Quebec, forty-eight.

Lieut. Talbot, with the First Penna battalion company, passed Three Rivers, on the first of March, with sixty men; Lieut. Hughes, on the 10th, with sixty; Capt. Jenkins, on the 12th, with eight men, his company having chiefly passed on before; Lieut. Stayner, on the 22nd, with eighty-one men; Lieut. Col. Irvine and Major Morris. On the 30th of March the return of troops under Arnold before Quebec makes Col. de Haas' battalion two hundred and twenty-five strong, being four companies.

On the 12th of April there were two companies back with Gen. Thomas, at Fort George, and two companies with Col. de Haas, and the rest of the staff, still on their way from New York. Gen. Wooster arrived at Quebec on the 1st of April, and took command, Gen. Arnold going to Montreal. Gen. Thomas arrived in front of Quebec on the 1st of May. On the 6th, the army was compelled to retreat, which was continued to Deschambault; thence to Sorel. Capt. Jones' company, Jenkins, etc., took part in the engagement near Three Rivers, on the 9th of June, where quite a number of men were captured, together with the Rev. Daniel McCalla, the Chaplain.

On the 14th of June, Gen. Sullivan retreated from Sorel, and reached St. John's on the 10th, Isle Aux Noix on the 18th. From this date the military service of this battalion is blended with that of the battalions of St. Clair, Wayne, and Irvine postea.

On the 24th of May, the British commander, Foster, with a part
of the garrison at Detroit, and in conjunction with Indians and Canadians, numbering one thousand men, who had captured Col. Bedell's regiment, which was stationed at the Cedars, and defeated Major Sherbourn, who was sent to release him, seriously threatened the capture of Arnold and his forces at La Chine. On the 25th, about eight o'clock A. M., Col. de Haas, who had been detached from the Sorel, with Capts. Harmar, William Butler, Lamar, and Capt. Nelson's company; one hundred and ten riflemen, and three hundred musketeers, came up and relieved Arnold, causing Foster to retreat, following him to Fort Ann, at the head of Montreal Island. On the 30th, Arnold issued a pre-emptory order to de Haas to cross the Grand river, at the head of Montreal Island, and destroy the Indian village of Cansadago, but de Haas called a council of war, that disapproved of the enterprise to the chagrin of most of his officers, and fell back to La Chine, and from thence to Montreal.

On the 15th of June, late in the evening, Gen. Arnold was advised by Capt. Wilkinson, whom he had sent to Sorel, that he had met Careton's forces at Varenne, on the south bank of the St. Lawrence, fourteen miles below Montreal. Arnold hastily crossed the river, the same night, with his troops, including de Haas' detachment, to Longueuil, and made a march of twenty-six miles in one day, by La Prairie, to St. John's, which he reached on the 16th. Here, for the first time, all the companies of the Penna. battalion were united as a battalion, for, as Gen. Sullivan writes on the 8th of June from Sorel, "General Arnold has kept de Haas' detachment dancing between this place and Montreal ever since my arrival." Col. de Haas' detachment, with the colonel, were the last that came up the Hudson, and never reached Thomas at Quebec, where the rest of the battalion, with Lieut. Col. Irvine and Major Morris had been.

Its history, after this date, is the same as that of the Second battalion, postea, until it was relieved from duty.

A return, dated Ticonderoga, Oct. 20th, 1776, shows the field officers and all the staff, except the chaplain, who had been captured, present; all the captains, except William Jenkins, who was absent with leave of Gen. Gates, from Aug. 5; all the Lieutenants present; all the ensigns, except Ensign J. P. de Haas, absent with leave from Aug. 5; twenty-three sergeants present; seven sick absent, and three on command; seven drums and fifes; of the officers, Major Anthony J. Morris, Lieutenants George Jenkins and Jacob Ashmead were present, sick. Total rank and file, four hundred and sixty-nine; wanting to complete of ditto, two hundred and forty-five. Total strength of the regiment five hundred and forty.

"The arms are in tolerable order, but of different caliber. The accoutrements had, many bayonets wanting, the men almost naked, and
have been so two-thirds of the campaign. Their clothing, when they marched from Philadelphia, being very scanty, and not a second shirt to their backs. The pitiful supplies of sundry articles which they received since were bad of the kind, and at most exorbitant prices. On our arrival at the Isle Aux Noix, after the retreat from Quebec, the regiment mustered upwards of five hundred rank and file fit for duty. By comparing the above return with the then state of the regiment, it will appear that they have suffered from the excessive fatigue they have gone through; the want of proper clothing to cover, and the want of blankets and tents to shelter them from the weather. To this day, we have not tents sufficient for two-thirds of the men, and those we have were old when we received them. A regimental commissary and paymaster is unknown to us. (The latter I have been myself.) The quartermaster has never been enabled by the public to support the regiment in a proper manner. After the hardships of a winter campaign in Canada, with those they have since experienced, there is not the least reason to think that any of the men will re-enlist at this place. But the merit of those officers who can afford and choose to continue in the service on the present inadequate terms, will be best determined after the expected attack."

J. P. de Haas, Colonel.

"N. B.—Captain Nelson's company of riflemen is willing to continue in the service of the First Pennsylvania regiment."

On the 13th of November, this battalion was taken off duty at Ticonderoga, and ordered to embark the next morning for Fort George. It was raised, as appears by a note to the foregoing return, "to the 27th of October," but remained three weeks longer, at Gen. Gates' request, for the defence and security of Ticonderoga, for which the General thanked them in general orders of the 14th. It was then evident that the British had gone into winter quarters, and would make no further attempts that fall to come southward.

Gen. St. Clair came along down with this battalion to join Gen. Washington, and when, on the 8th of December, it reached New Germantown, in New Jersey, the field officers and staff were still with the battalion, together with Captains Harmar and Davis, but the rank and file were reduced to sixty men, the rest having scattered off to their homes.

"In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, 20th December, 1776.

"Ordered, That Col. de Haas, and all the officers of his battalion who are in this city that intend to continue in the service of the State,
do apply to this Council for recruiting orders, by Monday, 23rd inst.,
and that Col. de Haas make return to this Council of all the officers of
his battalion who intend to continue in the service on the new estab-
lishment, on Monday next, at ten A.M."

On a return dated January 10, 1777, at Philadelphia, of his officers,
with the dates of their commissions, embracing the names of eight
captains, sixteen first and second lieutenants, eight ensigns, the ad-
jutant, quarter-master, surgeon and mate, Col. de Haas endorses:

"This is to certify, that during the time I had the honor to com-
mmand the above gentlemen, they behaved themselves like gentlemen,
and as became good soldiers."

This battalion became the nucleus for the formation of the Second
Pennsylvania regiment of the Continental Line. October 25, 1776.

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Council Met. Philada., Monday, March 27, 1777.

Present:

His Excell'y Thos. Wharton, Jun'r., Esq., President.

John Evans,
Jonathan Hoge,
John Hubley,
John Lowden and
John Proctor, Esquires.

Petition of Robert Patton, praying relief from abuse he has suffered
by ill-treatment of his family, and insult to his person, by General
de Haas, &c., Viz:

"To the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of
Pennsylvania,

"The Petition of Robert Patton, of Lebanon, in Lancaster County,
Humbly Sheweth:

"That your Petitioner is a Freeholder and inhabitant of the said
Town, and a Captain of the Second Battalion of Militia of Lancaster
County, and during the present dispute with Great Britain, has, to the
utmost of his power, contributed to the support of the Americans
cause, and served with his Company in New Jersey for seven weeks,
until discharged by Gen'l Mercer; That your Petitioner being lately
on business in Virginia, during his absence Gen. de Haas sent a Ser-
egnant to his Wife, ordering her to remove out of the house Your
Petitioner dwelt in, that he might make a Store House of it: That
Your Petitioner's Wife not knowing where to remove to with her
family, refused, altho' a second message was sent by the Sergeant;
That Your Petitioner, upon his return home, informed of the same pro-
cedure, incensed at such arbitrary conduct of the General, in endeavoring to drive his family out of his House without the least color of right, expressed his indignation and resentment in the strongest terms, in the hearing of many persons, some of whom acquainted the General with it; that the same day, To Wit: The Eleventh day of March, instant, The said Gen'l de Haas came, with a guard of Soldiers, to your Petitioner's house, entered the same, and arrested Your Petitioner and carried him to the Guard House, without being charged with any offence. That from the Guard House your Petitioner was afterwards taken by a Captain to the General, who, upon his acknowledging the words he had spoken of him, ordered your Petitioner to be put in irons, which was done as soon as these Irons could be procured, and your Petitioner remained in that situation for an Hour and a half: That Your Petitioner being ordered by the General to be sent to Head Quarters, applied to John Thorn, Esq'r. and by his influence was admitted to Bail, and accordingly entered into Bond, with Securities in the sum of one thousand Pounds, for his appearance before his Excellency Gen'l Washington. To answer whatever charges Gen'l de Haas should exhibit against him. Your Petitioner most humbly conceives, that by this arbitrary and tyrannical proceedings of Gen'l de Haas, not only he is greatly injured and aggrieved, but the liberties of the inhabitants of the state endangered, and their civil rights trampled on: And as he cannot yet obtain satisfaction in the ordinary course of Law for the particular injury done to himself, he thinks it his duty to represent these matters to Your Honors, being ready to verify by due proofs of the facts alleged, that so dangerous and alarming an attempt to subvert the Civil Authority, and subject the Inhabitants to Military Law, may not escape unpunished, and he will pray;"

Robert Patton.

* * *

The Petitioner being duly sworn in Council, deposeth and saith, That the several matters and things contained in the foregoing Petition is the Truth and the Whole Truth. March 24th, 1777.

Being read, Ordered to lie on the Table for consideration. Mr. Patton was examined in support of his allegation against General de Haas,

* * *

Lebanon, May 4th, 1777.

Sir:

Your favor of 29th April I received this day, the last letter I wrote to Colonel Wharton, was that I could not give an Exact Account of what provisions was at this place as the Beef & Pork was salted in bulk for want of Barrels, but the man who has the care told me there was about 700 lbs.
There being a detachment stationed here who has consum'd a great deal of provisions. They are now repacking the meat in barrels, as it is very well salted & will keep a long time. If you could get provisions somewhere else, I think it would answer much better, if not let me know, and I will send it down, please to give my best Compliments to Colonel Trumbull.

I am

Your very humble Servant,

J. P. DeHAAS.

P. S.—I shall send a Brigade of Wagons to Eastown immediately as you desir'd. Mr. Jacob Shallus, who was Commiss. at Lancaster will wait on you for the same post. I think he is a suitable person for that post.

EXTRACTS FROM WASHINGTON'S LETTER TO CONGRESS

**Vol. II. P. 58.**

May 10, 1777.

"I have not heard from General de Haas since his promotion. As soon as I was informed of it, I wrote and requested him to repair to camp; but, having received no answer, I am apprehensive my letter miscarried. I wish Congress to give him notice of his appointment, and directions to join the army, if he accepts his commission and is not prevented by indisposition."

**Vol. II. P. 80.**

**Headquarters, Middlebrook, June 13, 1777.**

"I shall be glad to be informed whether General de Haas considers himself an officer in the army. He has never joined it since his promotion, or written a single line to me upon the subject. If he accepts his commission it will be well for Congress to order him to repair to the army immediately. The Brigade intended for him is without a general officer, and has brought on a disagreeable dispute between two Colonels, each claiming the command. This is not the only inconvenience:—officers of high rank remaining at home afford a bad example to others who are inferior, and grounds for application for the like indulgence."

**FROM JOURNALS OF CONGRESS, VOL. VI, P. 876**

Oct. 15, 1776.

Congress "postponed" "That Col. John Philip de Haas, being strongly recommended for Promotion by General Gates, be appointed Brigadier General in the Army of the United States."
LETTER TO THE BOARD OF WAR

Lebanon, 13th July, 1778.

Sirs:—Upon frequently hearing that the Indians were committing murders and other outrages at Wyoming. I desired Colonel Grubb to send an Express to Col. Hunter to know the certainty. He is returned from Garber’s Mill above Harpers Ferry and brings the enclosed intelligence.

I would immediately oppose them with a number of men which I think highly expedient, but as no such measure ought to be prosecuted without instructions, I would be much obliged to you to let me know the sentiments of the Hon’ble the Board of War upon the occasion.

If it is agreeable send me power to draw ammunition and other necessaries for the purpose.

I am, sir, your

most obed’t and humble Serv’t.

J. P. de Haas.

Directed
On Public Service,
The Hon’ble Richard Peters, Esq.
Member of the Board of War Philadelphia.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER
BOARD OF WAR TO VICE PREST. BRYAN, 1778.

War Office, July, 16th, 1778.

Sirs:—The enclosed letter of Genl. de Haas, we send for your perusal. We propose desiring him to march with all the men he can collect, and to give him orders to draw ammunition and other necessaries for the purpose. This voluntary offer of Genl. de Haas gives us great pleasure, we doubt not it will prove beneficial to the numbers who join him; and trust it will meet the approbation of the Council, we wish indeed he had not waited for orders, but marched immediately with all the force he could draw together, for the incursions of Indians are so sudden and rapid; that a County must be exposed to utter devastation, unless the Militia rush out at once where danger threatens, without
waiting formal orders of Supreme Power, which must unavoidably
be attended with great delays.
We are Sir, your most obedt. Servants,
By order of the Board. Tim Pickering.

Directed
The Hon'bl. George Bryan, Esq.,
Vice Presid't, etc.

LETTER BOARD OF WAR TO COL. GALBRAITH.

IN COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA, 16th, July, 1778.

Sir:—Colonel Pickering in the name of the Board of War, has this
day communicated to Council a letter from Gen. de Haas, offering his
services in leading a body of volunteers against the Indians.
Council applaud the spirit of the Gentleman on this occasion, and
wish you to give him your utmost countenance. They rejoice to find
an officer of weight and experience, stepping forth in the defence of
the country.

I am sir
Your most Obed. Serv't.

George Bryan, Vice Presid't.

Directed
Col. Galbraith, Lancaster Co.

TROUBLE IN REGARD TO COMMAND AT WYOMING.

WAR OFFICE,
PHILADELPHIA, August 7, 1778.

Sir:—Two letters to you, one from Gen. Potter, the other from Col.
Hartley, were this morning presented to the Board, the conduct of
Gen. de Haas has it seems occasioned some difficulty, yet we believe
his services were beneficial; Col. Hartley writes thus

"General de Haas came up here with an intention of assisting and
supporting the people, he was successful in these particulars, he gave
directions concerning the Militia, and those that were arrived were
well disposed of (in my opinion), according to my instructions I have
taken command. The General's zeal on this occasion has been of
advantage; he will I believe as soon as he is better of the Gout, return
to Lebanon. The Stores he furthered on from there were much
wanted."
There were we perceive, some prejudices against Gen. de Haas, among those with whom he was to co-operate, of which we were ignorant. He seems, too, to have mistaken our intention supposing the letter of the Board invested him with coercive military power.

We took the General to be an Officer of ability and experience and imagined that in a time of such distress his services might be of singular utility and greatly accepted by the Militia and People for whom he voluntarily made a tender of them.

His return will we trust remove every ground of complaint about command.

The orders to Col. Hartley to take command were given by Gen. Arnold, who as well as we, had no expectation at the time, that a Gen. Officer would be in the quarter.

I am Sir your most obt. Servant.  
Tim Pickering.

Directed  
The Hon'bl. George Bryan, Esq.,  
Vice President, etc.

LETTER FROM GENERAL JAMES POTTER TO  
VICE-PRESIDENT BRYAN

Pa. Arc.  
1st Ser.  
Vol. VI.  
Sunbury, Septr. 1st, 1778.

Dear Sir:—

In my last letter to you I informed you that I intended, when the Militia came to this place, to go and station them on the frontiers, at such posts as I thought necessary, and make Report thereof to Council, thus I know I had a Right to do by my Commission and Local situation. Last Thursday I came to this place Intend to serve the Country, I found General de Haas Hear, who said he Commanded all the Troops, the next day Col. Harkley Came and let me see his orders to Command the Troops.

He Politely Requested that I would take the Command, that I chused to decline, as I never was over fond of command, and this is a disagreeable one; I Rether chuse to Act as a Privit Gentleman and do all the good in my power, But People will make Observations.

I am Sir, with due  
Respect, your most  
Humble servant  

Jas. Potter.
Directed
On Public Service
George Bryan, Esqr. President of the
This letter being received in Council on the 7th, of August, it is sup-
posed that the date was intended August 1st.

COPY OF LETTER WITHOUT ADDRESS OR SIGNATURE, IN
POSSESSION OF MR. PHILIP GREENAWALT, EVIDENTLY
A FILE COPY OF A LETTER WRITTEN BY JACOB
SHAFFNER, AS WILL BE SEEN BY LETTERS ON
THE SAME SUBJECT BY GENERAL DE HAAS.

LEBANON, Jan'y. 6th, 1779.

Sir:—
I find myself under the necessity to inform you, of the great scarcity
of Provisions at this place; and that Genl. Polowskey's Legion is
hourly expected in Town, to be quartered here during the Winter; it
is said to consist of 240 Men, the Victualling of which will require a
vast Quantity of Provisions.
This Post is quite exhausted by them. There have been upwards of
80 Waggoners quartered in this Town from Camp, (who are now
partly gone) who have entirely drained this place of every species of
Provisions. So that there is not any on hand. And I have these two
weeks past been constantly riding through the Country, but have not
been able for my life to purchase one Bushel of Grain, for Mr. de Haas
this while past has been very industriously employed in engrossing
the Wheat & has already purchased several Thousand Bushels, for
which he gives most exhorbitant Prices, it is said that he purchases
a great Quantity for hard Cash in which the Menomites & dis-
affected people are very fond and grasp at so eagerly as if their Salvation
depended on it.
I think it extremely hard that this Post should suffer, and Engrossers
be suffered to, for their own Lucre to drain the Country.
I would be glad to have your Instructions whether I might be war-
ranted in siezing the Grain of the Engrosser.
Cattle there are none upon hand, and I am not able to procure any
at the price to which I am limited. Stall fed Cattle now sells for no
less than £10 pr. Hundred. You will therefore be pleased to let me
know whether I am allowed to give that Price, for I am not able to
purchase one ounce under that Price. Salt Beef there is now about
ten Barrels here, which I would like to keep in reserve.
I have been under the necessity to get Mr. Edward's Flour at Myer's
Mill bolted over again & which is 4 Barrels and shall send for it to-
morrow, for there is but two or three Barrels here. Under these cir-
cumstances you will easily know why I do not load your Waggons according to request.

I can get Whiskey for 47-6 but none for 45- please let me know whether I shall purchase at that Price.

I should therefor be glad that Col. Cox would come down very soon & devise such Ways & Means as will speedily procure a Supply of Provisions for this Port. If Col. Cox should be from home and Mr. Berryhill could not send me an answer. I request the Favour of him to forward this Letter immediately to Col. Cox, who will be pleased to let me know his sentiments on this critical matter as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant.

LETTER, J. P. DE HAAS TO PRESIDENT REED.

Pa. Arc.
1st Ser.
1773-9.

LEBANON, 22nd, April, 1779.

Sir:—

I begleave to represent to your Excellency, that sometime since a quantity of Flour, which I had purchased at a request of a few inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia, for their own use was siezed for the use of the publick, by one Shaffner a Commissary at this Post:

As it was said to have been done by virtue of an order from the Board of War. I represented the Circumstances to that body to whose answer and to my letter herewith presented, for a more particular account of the transaction, I refer to you.

I am induced to believe that your Excellency and the Council will think I am entitled to some satisfaction or redress and that it will not be withheld from me.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's
most obedient Serv't.,

J. P. DE HAAS.

Directed
To His Excellency Joseph Reed Esqr.,
President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Inclusion
No. 1

LEBANON, 11th, February, 1779.

Sir:—

I am going to address you on an unusual subject, but when I inform you that the grievance of which I am about to complain, is said to have the authority of the Board of War, you will not wonder.
Sometime since I was requested by some of my acquaintances in Phila. to procure a few tons of good flour for their particular consumption, which I did, and had it stored at the mill waiting an opportunity of sending it down.

On the 4th inst. one Jacob Shaffner, a young lad appointed by Mr. Cornelius Cox, Asst. Commissary of Purs. to supply this Port with provisions, came and informed me that he had Mr. Cox’s order to seize all of my flour, wheat, etc., for the use of the public.

I answered that I had five or six tons of flour at the mills, which I considered as the property of sundry inhabitants of Philadelphia, but in case of absolute necessity he should have it on his paying at least what it cost me, and at the same time informed him that Colonel Greenawalt of this place had flour for sale, and that Col. Kucher, about a mile off, had purchased a large quantity of wheat, which I did not doubt was for sale also.

Next day I was informed by the Millers that Shaffner, with guards, wagons, etc., had seized and taken away the flour, and had issued orders to them to grind all the grain that should be brought to their mills, belonging to me, or in the name of P. de Haas.

This astonished me, but it is happy that I did not take the revenge which my passion first dictated.

On the 6th inst. two wagons loaded with whiskey halted before my door. I immediately gave information thereof to Mr. Shaffner that in case supplies were really scarce, he might have an opportunity of seizing that also; upon which he came and told me that he had then a sufficiency of both flour and whiskey, whence I concluded that his orders, whether pretended or real, were to seize my property only, a measure which could not have even the countenance of the Board of War.

The fact, in my opinion, is, that I was by no means under his notice as a forestaller, etc., and as provisions being in no wise scarce, it seems to have been in part dictated and set on foot by a petty Quarter Master of this place, by whom I have been insulted on account of my abhorrence of his conduct.

Not long since I received a note from him in the following words: “You are to take two men (waggoners) billeted on you. Robt. Patton, D.Q.M.G’. to Genl. de Haas.”

This I thought very extraordinary. I however absolutely refused it, well knowing that a Gent. one honored with the title of a General, can by no means have soldiers billeted on him at least it is so in Europe. It may be that this Mr. Quarter Master has unusual authorities; indeed it seems so, or he would not dare to exchange horses, as though they were private property, or to sell them otherwise than in a public manner.

There are frequent instances of his seizing the property of individuals
in a manner that appeared to me most unanswerable. If such powers are conferred upon him I have nothing to say on that head, but I have a right to think as I please. And when I know that a man, who but a short time since had no property, is purchasing one property after another, and speaks of thirty or forty thousand pounds as but a part of his estate, in my opinion his conduct as a public officer appears somewhat censurable. The above Mr. Shaffner is a boy without a single good qualification, who, aided by others of his class, has more than once abused, and in a forceful manner taken the grain, cattle, etc., from the most reputable and honest farmers of the neighborhood without any cause whatever.

These things are too much winked at, and are of very great public injury. With respect to the seizure of my flour, I should be glad to have your answer.

I flatter myself the Hon'ble Board will afford me such redress as I have a right to expect.

I have the honor to be, etc.  

J. P. de Haas.

(Copy)
The Honorable R. Peters.

Inclosure
No. 2.

War Office, Februy. 20th, 1779.

Dr. Sir:

I received your letter on the subject of certain seizures made of your property.

I communicated it to the Board, in whose behalf I inform you that your letter was the first notice we had of the transaction.

We gave no orders in the case, nor have we given any orders whatsoever for the seizure of any person's property by officers in any department under our direction.

We have communicated your letter both to D. Comy. of Purchases, Mr. Blaine, and to the A. Q. M. Gl. Mr. Pettit, with our orders to examine into the complaint.

Mr. Pettit informs us he gave no orders, nor was it done in the Department, for the billeting of soldiers or waggoners; and Mr. Blain says the flour was taken by virtue of a general authority from the Executive Council of the State.

Be assured that we will encourage no officer in acts of oppression on any occasion; and as to the facts stated in your letter with respect to the Commissaries, if they have done wrong, you have your remedy against them. We wish the Laws of the State to have their full effect in all cases, nor is it our custom to give any orders which may in their consequences oppose them.
If the Commissaries have acted contrary to the Laws they are liable to punishment, but if agreeable to them, they will be justified.

Our orders cannot be plead, for we gave none. We will on all occasions support and not infringe the rights of citizens, as we look upon our happiness and liberty entirely involved in theirs.

I am with great Regard,

Your Obed't. Serv't.

Richard Peters,
in behalf of ye Board.

Directed
To Genl. de Haas.

COPY OF LETTER FROM CORNELIUS COX, A. C. P. TO JACOB SHAFFNER, A. C. P. IN POSSESSION OF MR. PHILIP GREENAWALT

Sir:—

I received your Favour pr. Capt. Montieth with 66 Barrels of Flour, Though you sent me word in your Invoice that you had sent but Sixty two. The mistake is in your favour as to number of Barrels, the Hundreds are Equal you should be more Careful of such Errors.

Genl. de Haas wants to be cross with you, but I would let him see that I had the Qualifications of doing Justice to the State and that I would do my duty Without Respect to persons, I desire you may not pay a higher price than flour sold for at the time you received it, provided he did absolutely sell it to you at a certain price, or you promise him any price, if you did you ought to pay him that & no more.

I send to supply your wants pr. Mr. Montieth Fifteen Hundred & Twenty Dollars & shall send you more when I get it.

I remain Trusting you will be Industrious, get all the Flour in your power.

Your Friend Sincerely,

Cornelius Cox, A. C. P.
Estherton 11th. May 1779.

Mr. Jacob Shaffner, A. C. P.

COPY OF LETTER WITHOUT ADDRESS OR SIGNATURE, BEING FILE COPY OF A LETTER FROM JACOB SHAFFNER TO CORNELIUS COX, A. C. P. IN POSSESSION OF MR. PHILIP GREENAWALT.

Dr. Sir:

As I am at present out of Cash, I make free to trouble you with these Lines, requesting you if possible to send me per Bearer, Capt.
Shoulfer such a supply of money as you think necessary to enable me to go on in the purchasing of Cattle, Flour, Wheat, &c. &c.

I have the promise of several tons of Flour since I seen you last, but for want of money could not take it in my possession. I've not paid any higher than $20 pr. ton for Flour, but is since raised, & Wheat sells for (or at least they ask) Thirty, Dollars Pr. Bushel in our neighborhood.

I have been instructed by Col. Blaine to give Mr. de Haas a Receipt in full for all the Flour Seized of him for which he would settle with him upon the highest price now current, but I find it difficult to give such Rect. on Acct. of my promise to the Millers to pay the grinding in case of Mr. de Haas would not pay them, which he has not yet done.

I think it very unreasonable that Mr. de Haas should receive more than the price current at the time of the seizing of said Flour, when the good people of the neighborhood have spontaneously spared their produce to the Continent at the prices current.

I crave your answer to this Letter & remain with Regards

Dr. Sir

Your very humbl Serv't.

When in Philada. last I called at Col. Blaines Office several times but he was from home.

COPY OF RECEIPT RECEIVED FROM MR. PHILIP GREENAWALT

Received sometime last Spring of Mr. Jacob Shaffner, Forty eight Barrels of Flour, Wt. Ton + Cwt. 18-Qr. 1-lb 27 and Fifty Bushels of Wheat, which Flour and Wheat sd. Shaffner siezed and took for Publick use from B. Genl. John P. de Haas of Lebanon by order of D. C. Genl. Col'o. Ephm. Blaine, and for which sd. Shaffner has not been paid neither has he paid Genl. de Haas at this time.

Received by me this 17th. day of September 1779, at Esherton.

Cornelius Cox, Ad. C. P.

48 Bbls. Flour
50 Bushels Wheat.

From D. McN. Stauffer,
Lancaster, Pa.

Certificate of Ann McElrath concerning the rental of a house from Gen. de Haas says. "Mr. John Philip de Haas late of Lebanon, removed to Philadelphia in the month of October 1779, at which time my late husband John Mc. Elrath took possession of the brick house in Lebanon, the property of the said Mr. de Haas, and we continued in possession of the said house until sometime in November, 1782.
Lebanon County Historical Society

Lease Certificate. Leasing his house in Lebanon to Messrs. W. Paine and Wm. Kirkpatrick, with all the out lots, except one in possession of Michael Ensminger, for £ 35. from May 1, 1782.

Note in hand of Jasper Yeats on letter of J. P. De Haas Jr. about house rent, says, "J. P. De Haas died 3 June 1786."

From D. McN. Stauffer, Lancaster, Pa.

Lancaster County S. S.

Seal of Orphans Court

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Eleanor de Haas and John Philip de Haas, Executors of the last will and testament of John Philip de Haas Esquire, deceased, greeting.

We command you that, setting aside all business and excuses you be and appear in your proper persons before our justices at Lancaster at our Orphans' Court there to be held on Friday the 29th. day of September next to testify the truth according to your knowledge relating to the Estate of Jacob Graff deceased to whom the said John Philip de Haas, Esquire, together with Philip Greenawalt, were executors. And we also command you that you bring with you all receipts, accounts, vouchers, Books and original entries which you may have come to or either of your hands respecting the estate of the said Jacob Graff deceased, and this you are not to omit under the Penalty of £100. Witness Michael Hubley Esquire at Lancaster the 8th, day of September in the year of our Lord 1786.

(Signed) John Hubley.

Endorsed on back.

Lawrence Spiegle swears that he delivered one copy of the within subpoena to Mrs. Eleanor de Haas and the other copy to John Philip de Haas on Thursday September 14.

COPY OF THE WILL OF

JOHN PHILIP DE HAAS, 21ST. FEBRUARY, 1786

In the name of God Amen. I John Philip de Haas, of the city of Philadelphia in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Esquire, being of sound and disposing mind and understanding do hereby make my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say I hereby revoke all other Wills and Testaments by me at any time heretofore made and declare this and no other to be my last Will and Testament.

Imprimis I will that all my last Debts and funeral Expenses be duly paid and satisfied.

Item I do give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife Eleanor all my ready cash in my possession at the time of my death my
Phaeton my horses and harness all my household goods Bed and Bedding Linen Pictures Plate and all my kitchen furniture.

Item I do give to my said wife the use of my slaves during her natural life and after her death I do give my said slaves to my son John Philip de Haas.

Item I do give and devise unto my said wife all that my Messuage or Tenement and lot of ground wherein I now dwell situate on the east side of Third Street from Delaware in the square between Mulberry Street and Sassafras Street in the City of Philadelphia aforesaid containing in breadth on the said Third Street nineteen feet and nine inches and in length or depth Seventy five feet. Together with the right use and privilege of a three foot alley by thirty six feet from the said Third Street back along the Northernmost part of my new home lying to the south and adjoining my aforesaid Messuage or Tenement and lot of ground in common with the Tenants and Occupiers of my said New House and Lot of ground.

All that my Coach House and lot of ground situate on the north side Quarry Street leading out of the said Third Street into Bread Street commonly called Moravian Alley in the city of Philadelphia aforesaid the Tail of which said last mentioned lot of ground adjoins my said Third Street ground.

And all that my Messuage or Tenement and lot of ground herein before called my New House situate on the East side of Third Street aforesaid in the City of Philadelphia aforesaid adjoining my said Dwelling house and lot of ground containing in breadth on the said Third Street Twenty two feet and one Inch in length or depth fifty eight feet and five inches Together with the right and privilege of the said Alley in common as aforesaid Together with the Appurtenances unto the said two several Messuages or Tenements Coach House and Three several Lots of ground severally and respectively belonging. To hold the said several lots or pieces of ground and Premises unto my said wife Eleanor and her assigns for and during all the term of her natural life without committing any waste.

And from and immediately after the death of my said wife I do give and devise my first mentioned Messuage or Tenement and lot of ground wherein I now dwell with the right and privilege of the aforesaid Alley and my said Coach House and lot of ground Together with all the Appurtenances thierunto severally and respectively belonging to my said son John Philip de Haas his Heirs and Assigns forever. As for and concerning my said last mentioned Messuage and Tenement hereinbefore called my New House and lot of ground with the right and privilege of the said Alley in manner aforesaid. I do give devise and dispose of the same (after the death of my said wife) in manner following; that is to say The one full undivided Moiety or
equal half part thereof, the whole into two equal parts to be divided, to my son John Philip de Haas his heirs and assigns forever. And the other one full and undivided Moiety or equal half part thereof, the whole into two full equal parts to be divided, to my daughter Henrietta Craig wife of William Craig Esquire. To hold to her for and during all the term of her natural life and from and immediately after her death, to such child or children now hath or hereafter may have, his, her and their heirs and assigns forever in severalty as Tenants in common and not as Joint Tenants. Provided always nevertheless that if my said daughter should happen to die without issue that then in such case the same shall go to my said son John Philip de Haas, his heirs and assigns forever. Anything heretofore contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Item: I do give and devise unto my said wife Eleanor all that my piece or Tract of land situate on or near Bald Eagle creek in the County of Northumberland in Pennsylvania aforesaid adjoining what I call my "Major Tract" containing five hundred and twenty two acres, be the same more or less. Together with the appurtenances, to hold to her my said wife her heirs and assigns forever.

Item: I do give and devise unto my son John Philip de Haas, all that my piece or Tract of land called my "Major Tract" situate near the Bald Eagle creek in the county of Northumberland aforesaid containing nine hundred acres be the same more or less. Together with the appurtenances to hold to him my said son John Philip de Haas his heirs and assigns forever.

Item: I do give and bequeath to my said son-in-law William Craig and Henrietta his wife, my daughter, the sum of One Hundred Pieces of Portugal coined Gold commonly called Half Joes, each of them weighing nine penny weights at least, to be paid in three years next after my decease or sooner if my Executors hereinafter named or the survivors of them shall think fit.

Item: I do give and bequeath unto my dear grandson John Philip de Haas Craig, son of the said William Craig by Henrietta his wife my said daughter, as soon as he arrives at his full age of twenty one years, the like sum of One Hundred Golden Half Joes.

And after all my just debts and all my above Legacies are first paid, then I do give and bequeath unto my said wife Eleanor the one full third part of all my remaining Personal Estate and further I do give and devise to my said wife Eleanor (after all my said debts and all my said Legacies are paid) the full third part of the yearly rents Issues and Profits of the remaining part of my Real Estate, To hold to her and during all the term of her natural life and my mind and
will is that whatever I have hereinbefore given bequeathed and devised unto my said wife Eleanor shall be deemed and taken to be for and in lieu of her Thirds Dower and other expectancy out of my whole Estate both Real and Personal and not otherwise.

And as for and concerning all the Remainder, Reversions and residue of my Real and Personal Estate not hereinbefore disposed of, I do dispose of the same in manner following that is to say As to the Use, Interest, Income, and Profits of the one full equal half part of the Personal Estate, I do give and bequeath unto my said daughter Henrietta Craig during all the term of her natural life and immediately after her death to her child or children which she now hath or hereafter shall or may have to be equally divided between them part and share alike.

And as to the one full equal part of the Real Estate thereof I do give and bequeath the same unto her my said daughter Henrietta Craig for and during the term of her natural life without committing any waste. And from and immediately after her death I do give and devise the same unto her child or children she now hath or hereinafter may have, his, her, and their heirs and assigns forever in severalty as Tenants in common and not as Joint Tenants. Provided always nevertheless that if my said daughter the said Henrietta Craig shall happen to die without any issue that then and in such case the said real and Personal Estate so devised or given to her as aforesaid shall go to my son John Philip de Haas his heirs and assigns forever. Anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. And the other or remaining part of the said Remainder, Revision, or Residue of my said Estate both real and personal not hereinbefore disposed of I do give and devise and bequeath the same unto my said son John Philip de Haas his heirs Executors Administrators and assigns forever.

And I do hereby nominate and appoint my said wife Eleanor and my said son John Philip de Haas Executors of this my last Will and Testament. And I do hereby authorize and empower my said Executors and the survivors of them to sell and dispose of my lands or all of them not otherwise herein disposed of, and to sign seal and deliver in due form of law any deed or deeds of conveyance of the same for any piece, Tract or Parcel of land or lands which by any articles of agreement in writing or otherwise I have agreed to convey in fee simple or otherwise to any Person or Persons whatsoever, and the Purchase money or monies for the same to receive and to give receipt or receipts for the same. And to dispose of the said money or monies according to the true intent and meaning of this my last Will and Testament.
In witness hereof the said John Philip de Haas hath hereunto set his hand and seal the twenty-first day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty six.

Signed Sealed and Published and Declared by John Philip de Haas the Testator in the foregoing named for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request have hereunto set our hands.

THOMAS TILLYER.

JOSEPH KER.

PETER MITTER.

J. P. DE HAAS (Seal)

INVENTORY


Appraised by Peter Miller and Thomas Tillier, July 13, 1786.