



EMBLEM SHOWN ON THE FLAG
OF THE HORSE ARTILLERY

The Emblem shown above, greatly reduced in size, was drawn for this work by Marcella P. VanderVeer.

The obverse of the Flag
bears the Arms of the
State of New York

THE HORSE ARTILLERY
AND
THE WASHINGTON CONTINENTALS
OF
GLENVILLE NEW YORK

TOGETHER WITH DATA
AND
FAMILY SKETCHES
BY
PERCY M. VAN EPPS
TOWN HISTORIAN

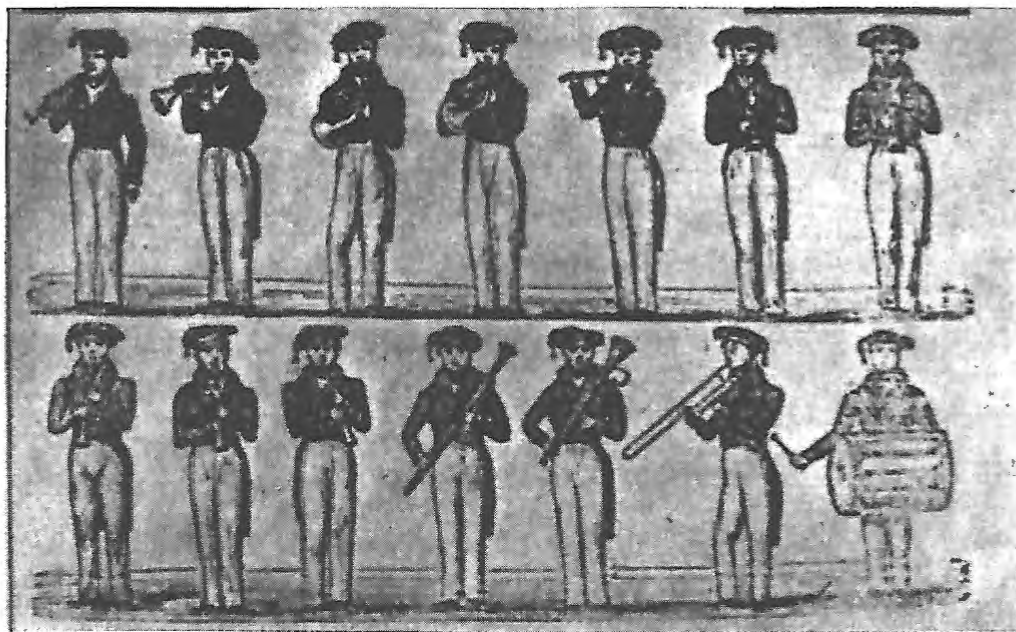
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PUBLISHED BY THE TOWN BOARD

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**MILITARY BAND OF THE PERIOD OF THE
HORSE ARTILLERY**

This organization, "The National Band" of New York City, visited Schenectady in the year 1832.

CHAPTER ONE

"THE HORSE ARTILLERY OF GLENVILLE
AND ITS TIMES"

INTRODUCTORY

In this paper it is planned to tell the story of a military company that had its headquarters in the Town of Glenville, Schenectady County, N.Y. during the first four decades of its existence as a town, including pertinent notes and comments on the customs and life of that period.

The Town of Schenectady, then still part of Albany County, was in 1798 chartered as a City with its bounds including, besides much of the present area of the city, all that part of the town lying north of the Mohawk River -- the present town of Glenville - and the greater part of the Rotterdam of today, Rotterdam becoming its third ward and the entire area of the Glenville of today its fourth ward. This condition remained until the year 1820 when on April 14 by an act of the Legislature the Third Ward was set apart as a separate town under the name Rotterdam and the Fourth Ward as a town named Glenville. Given this name in honor of its first settler, Alexander Lindsay a native of Glen Esk in Forfarshire, Scotland. Lindsay, as far as known, being the first white man to acquire land and build a house on the north side of the Mohawk River. Like a custom once quite common in Great Britain of adding the place-name to that of a family, Glen was shortly added to Lindsay's name and by his descendents was finally adopted as their family name.

THE HORSE ARTILLERY, its official name, the subject of this paper, was a mounted troop locally known at different times

during its nearly half a century of existence as "The Flying Artillery," "The Horse Guards," and in its last few years as "The Washington Continentals," it was then equipped with a handsome uniform after the style of Revolutionary times.

During the first decade of our Glenville Horse Artillery there was a number of volunteer military companies in the Schenectady area, and one at least designated as "Heavy Artillery." However, by the Militia Laws of our State, all volunteer companies of Cavalry, Artillery, Light Infantry, Riflemen, Grenadiers, and Infantry were classed as part of the Militia of the State and were subject to the orders of the commanding officer of the Regiments within whose jurisdiction such company or companies were located. The term of service in these companies was uniformly seven years from the time of enlistment.

Officially, our Glenville company at its organization was a unit of the "First Battalion, and Third Brigade of the sixth Regiment of the Militia of the State of New York." At the time of its organization our Glenville Company, the sixth Regiment was under command of Colonel Joseph Consaul of Schenectady, however, we find that in the last few years of its existence, in the late 1840s, and in the 1850s, it had become a unit of the 26th Regiment commanded by Colonel S. Yates.

Of the exact date of the organization of our Horse Artillery we have no official record as practically all the military records of the State, filed with the Adjutant-General, were lost in the disastrous fire at the Capitol in 1911. However,

its organization doubtless closely followed the creation of the town in 1820. The first official record touching the existence of this organization yet found is the enlistment paper of Charles Taylor Conde, who served both as a Bugler and a Lieutenant, for a term of seven years. This enlistment was signed June 4, 1821, by Col. Consaul, in lieu of a captain who was absent or possibly had not yet been chosen. Charles Conde was a grandson of Adam Conde a pioneer settler of Upper Glenville who with his wife Catalyntje (Truax), established their home on the Sacandaga Road, some eight miles from Schenectady soon after that road was chopped out and broadened from an Indian path. The area of his settlement is called in the early land deeds "Sugartown," much maple sugar being made here by the first settlers.

"THE HORSE ARTILLERY ITS NAME AND ITS MUSIC"

The name, HORSE ARTILLERY officially given to our Glenville Unit of the Militia of our State, seems somewhat of a misnomer in-as-much as having no heavy field pieces or the usual line of essential supplies that went with such guns armed with heavy curved sabers, they were simply, it appears, a troop of Cavalry and should have been so designated. When taking part in parades on Independence Day and special occasions they were guided by bugle calls, their first Bugler so far as known, Charles Taylor Conde who as we know from his enlistment papers, he was also the Company's first Lieutenant and doubtless at the parades rode side by side with the Captain at the Company's head, sounding directional calls.

Our Horse Artillery had no martial music except at their annual drill at the Brooks Hotel, their headquarters. The musicians two drums, a fife or two, whereas the records show they had such music to enliven up these occasions, regarded as gala days when other than the Troops were present..

While having no heavy guns as above stated, our troopers however possessed one, possibly two, small two-inch guns which were charged and fired for the morning and evening guns.

"WHY ASCRIBED TO GLENVILLE"

A few words may here seem necessary to explain why the Horse Artillery, a unit of our State Militia, was locally known as a Glenville organization: Many Regiments and Company's of the Militia throughout the State, bore, beside their official designation as Units of the Militia, other names locally applied, such as Albany County Militia, Glenville Horse Artillery, The Flying Artillery, etc., these unofficial names were sometimes given indicating the place of their formation and training grounds. Our Horse Artillery was most certainly organized in our Town of Glenville, although it included in its ranks men from other parts of our County and surrounding area. However, the larger number of its men were residents of Glenville as also was at least four of its Captains, and here too was the Armory and Training Ground of this unit during the entire period of its existance.

* * * * *

CHAPTER TWO

(ARMS AND EQUIPMENT)

As to the manner in which the militia companies of the area, during the period treated of in this paper, were armed, uniformed and equipped, in the lack of the official records filed with the Adjutant-General, practically all destroyed in the fire at the Capitol, we can only conjecture. It seems, however, quite plain that the enlisted men both officers and privates till the passage of the revised Militia Law of 1846 mainly sought and provided as best they could their own equipment. Adding confirmation to this belief was an advertisement printed in the Schenectady Cabinet in its issue of June 15, 1831, which is here quoted:

--Attention Military!! For sale Cheap, a quantity of Muskets, Rifles, Swords, Pistols, Dirks and Knapsacks. Suitable for the approaching muster. Enquire at the Auction Store of P. French.

It is true, however, that the State in conformity with a section of the old Militia Law, would furnish muskets with bayonets also swords, pistols, etc., if such were on hand -- at cost -- to any certified member of a militia company, but from what can be learned it seems that this offer was not generally taken advantage of. Research on the subject shows that muskets and rifles of all ages and many different makes and caliber, even including some of the old flint locks, were carried by the infantry companies of the period. Possibly now and then there might have been one of the old combination, double-

barrelled rifle-muskets like that said to have been carried by Tim Murphy the scout.

This diversity in the weapons carried and that the fire-arms were of different caliber, also that flint locks were still in use is shown, did we not know it from research, by the provisos found in a section of the old Militia Law, relating to fines imposed on the luckless soldier found at parades or inspection lacking certain specified equipment. For its bearing on our subject noting the fine imposed for the want of two spare flints and its historic interest the entire section in question will be here given:

Every noncommissioned officer and private, appearing without being armed and equipped as the law directs, at any parade or rendezvous, shall be sentenced to pay the following fines, namely: For want of a sufficient sword and belt, if belonging to the artillery or light artillery, and for want of a sufficient musket with a steel rod or rifle, if belonging to a company of light infantry, grenadiers, riflemen or infantry, one dollar; for want of a sufficient bayonet and belt, twenty-five cents; for want of a pouch, with a box therein, sufficient to contain twenty-four cartridges, suited to the bore of his muskit, twenty-five cents; for want of two spare flints and a knapsack, twenty-four cartridges, shot-pouch, powder-horn, twenty balls, and a quarter of a pound of powder, twenty-five cents each; but the whole number of spare flints, of cartridges and of balls, shall be considered each as only one deficiency.

Another clause of the old Militia Law listing fines that might be imposed on the men of the mounted companies will also be quoted here inasmuch as from it we learn somewhat of the required equipment of the members of our local Horse Artillery, a unit, of course of the State Militia:

Each noncommissioned officer and private, in the cavalry shall be sentenced to pay, as fines, for

want of a sufficient horse, one dollar; for want of a sufficient pair of pistols and holster, one dollar; for want of a sufficient saber, one dollar; for want of a sufficient saddle, bridle, breast-plate, valise, or cartridge-box, twenty-five cents each; for want of a sufficient crupper and mail pillion, twelve and a half cents each.

It has been no easy task to find and collate data illustrating this phase of the militia service of the period in question; The Armys Equipment data thus far obtained has been slowly gathered, little by little, from many sources, from letters and family papers of the period; from personal interviews with elderly residents; from files, more or less complete -- generally less -- of contemporary newspapers found in public libraries, and from a certain few other sources like that of a notable find of military records in the summer of 1942, made in the attic of an old home of an adjoining area, a find fortunately made in time to escape the clutch of the junkman.

The documents comprising this priceless store of official records pertain mainly to the activities of certain units of our State Militia in the 1820s and 1830s; muster rolls, inventories of equipment, notices of court materials and drill inspections, officers commissions and orders, etc. Altogether shedding not a little light on the subject discussed in this paper, although not specifically pertaining to the regiment of which our Horse Artillery was a unit. Ironically perhaps, had this small but very important store of papers been filed at the time of issuance with the Adjutant-General, as required by law, they would have been irreplaceably lost, but stored dry and

safe in a leather-covered trunk in the attic of the old-time home of a Colonel of a regiment of Light Infantry they have remained safe and intact for well over a century. Incidentally, the initials of the owner of the trunk in question marked with large brass nails, are shown on its top and found inside with the papers was his commission, dated August 20, 1827, as a Colonel of the "Thirty-second Regiment of Light Infantry of the State of New York," bearing the signature of Governor DeWitt Clinton. Other commissions signed by Governor Clinton were in the lot, also a lieutenant's commission signed in the year 1823 by Governor Joseph C. Yates, of Schenectady.

A study of the papers found in this skin-clad, nail-studded trunk tells an interesting story of the personnel, the arms and equipment of our early militia, and in a tabulated report of the "Field and Staff" of this 32d Regiment of Light Infantry, made about 1827 we find listed, besides its Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel, a "Major, Adjutant, Quarter-Master, Pay Master, Surgeon, Surgeon's Mate, Chaplain, Sergeant-Major, Quarter-Master-Surgeon, Drum and Fife Major." Equipment of the number of listed included: "6 Swords, 6 Pair Pistols, 6 Holsters, 9 Horses, 9 Saddles, (9), 9 Bridles, and 8 Valises." While the Regiment was listed as Light Infantry yet nine of its officers seem to have been mounted.

The report of an inspection made Oct. 3d, 1827 of a Rifle Company, James Reiley, Captain, attached to this same Regiment of Infantry, lists a total of 48 men present of whom 44 had uniforms and 34 are listed as having rifles and cartridge

boxes. One only is credited with a powder horn. Three carried swords. Four drummers, two fifers and one bugle player furnished the music. Listed on this printed form also were "espontoons." These were dagger-shaped objects, sometimes of brass, mounted on a staff, formerly carried by sergeants and other officers, mainly as an emblem of rank or authority, although mentioned on the printed forms furnished the early militia regiments, they were at the period here treated, seldom if ever used. And, too, we find gunflints listed. Though at the period in question the use of flint-lock firearms was pretty well displaced by the invention and use of percussion caps for firing the charge, yet we know that a few of the old flint-lock arms were still used, even it seems, well towards the middle of the century. Flints for both guns and pistols still could be found on the shelves of our general stores, as late as the 1870s.

Like our local Horse Artillery, who carried a costly and elaborate flag or standard, of which an illustration will be given, so also this rifle company had their flag, as we find one listed on their inventory; a common custom of the period. Another entry, unofficial however, and somewhat derisive on this inventory of the equipment of the rifle company, evidently pencilled by a wag of the period, lists among the weapons possessed "32 Tomahawks," and "28 Scalping Knives."

The captains, and perhaps some of the minor officers, of our local Horse Artillery carried straight swords. A very elaborate and expensive one of these, sheathed in a gold-

plated scabbard, was carried by Reuben Groot, the last Captain of the Horse Artillery, and possibly by some of the captains preceding him. This weapon, which is to be placed in the collections of our County Historical Society, will be more fully described in a section of this paper dealing with the tangible relics of the organization.

The privates of the Horse Artillery carried curved sabers. One of these, carried by Andrew Fisher, who enlisted in 1839, was found in the possession of his son, the late William W. Fisher of the Sacandaga Road.

By the requirements of the old Militia Law, each mounted man was to carry in addition to his sword or saber, two pistols with their holsters. No records have been found showing that this requirement was observed by our local organization.

As was the case with the infantry and riflemen we can safely assume that there was little or no uniformity in the arms carried by the Horse Artillery, either of the swords, sabers, or of the pistols, even if the latter were carried.

Members of our Horse Artillery told of one or more small wheeled cannon that were sometimes drawn, presumably attached to a limber, in the parades in which this organization took part; no doubt in the celebration of Independence Days in Schenectady and in Scotia in which generally all the military units of the area took part.

A small Wheeled Gun, similar to those of the period of our Horse Artillery, is owned by the Reich family of Sacandaga Road. This curious little brass-trimmed cannon had a barrel thirty

inches in length, with a bore of two inches. It is in a good state of preservation, little of its original woodwork having been replaced. It is doubtful if this small gun was ever charged and fired with a ball, it served merely as an emblem and an efficient noise-maker. Cuts depicting small wheeled Cannon seemingly exact similar in every way to the little gun preserved on the Sacandaga Road, were occasionally printed in the local newspapers of the 1830s, in connection with announcements of musters and reviews of the military units of the area.

On close examination of this little field piece owned by the Reich family of Sacandaga Road it seems possible that this may have been one of the very guns owned by our Horse Artillery.

The equipment for Artillery Companies as printed in the Militia Laws included, besides necessary uniforms and colors, forty-odd items; Ammunition Boxes, Tarpeulins, Tillers, Tom-pions and straps, Aprons, Drag-ropes, Limbers, Sponges, Lin-stocks, Portfire-stocks, Tumbrils, Tube Boxes, Canister Shot, Ammunition Carts, Sets of Horse Harness, etc.

It is doubtful if our local company of Horse Artillery with their one, or possibly two little guns, burdened themselves with much of this listed equipment.

As to the Horses of the mounted men, none of your under-sized, hollow-backed nags for this gallant troop. The Militia Laws plainly specified they were to be "14½ Hands" in height.

"HOW UNIFORMED"

There are few records telling us in regard to the uniforms worn by our Horse Artillery in their early years. From the State Militia Laws (Sec. 35,) it would plainly seem that each member of the Militia had to stand the expense of his own uniform.

Section 35 of the Militia Laws, which read, "Every officer of the line and staff and every officer and private of any uniformed Company in the State, shall provide himself with a uniform complete, which, shall be such as the Commander-in-Chief shall prescribe, and subject to such restrictions, limitations and alterations as he may order." In the 1850s, we find our Horse Artillery was locally known for a short period as the Glenville Washington Continentals. A uniform coat worn in the 1850s is still preserved, it is made in Continental style, blue coats with buff facing and a profusion of large gilt buttons.

"THE OLD HOLLANDER"

Treating of the diversity of the weapons carried by the members of the early Militia Companies of our State, it will not be deemed out of place to here speak of a famous old gun owned in Glenville, an heirloom treasured by seven successive generations of the Van Patten family, which assuredly was carried in some of the local militia units treated of in this paper.

This old flintlock made in London in 1758, carried by one of its Van Patten owners, a private in Col. Wemples Regiment

of Albany County Militia, played its part in the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. Even before the share this old gun took in the defeat of Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne at Bemis Heights it had proven the worth of its metal and the skill of Willets, its London maker, by sending across the Mohawk River, due to the accurate and deadly aim of its Van Patten owner, a heavy leaden, limited ticket for the Happy Hunting Grounds to a predatory Canadian Indian skulking along the south bank of the river. This is said to have occurred a short distance west of Schenectady.

The fourth in direct line from Nicholas (Claas) Van Patten, original owner of this old gun, was Adam Conde Van Patten, one-time Captain of our local Horse Artillery. Despite the fact, as stated, that the gun was made in London- plainly stamped on its lock-- Capt. Van Patten and father always insisently spoke of it as "The Old Hollander." Furthermore, as far as we know, it was Van Patten who caused the gun to be changed from a flint lock to the percussion cap system, as we find it today, which change brought about a near tragic accident. In the house one day Van Patten about to remove the percussion cap, his thumb slipped from the hammer and BANG! spoke the loud-voiced Old Hollander, blasting a hole through the side wall of the house, its charge barely missing a member of the household hanging up clothes outside.

* * * * *

CHAPTER THREE

"TRAINING DAYS"

Like the observance of Independence Day, The Training Days of our early militia occurring some two or three days each year were gala days, for the inhabitants of our area. People from far and wide came to watch the soldiers drill, and in spite of the fact that it seemed necessary to have State Laws enacted prohibiting such conduct, yet no doubt many caustic comments and sly catcalls were cast at some new or awkward recruit, and, too, from stories that have come down to us we may well believe that the bottle was sometimes slyly passed around among the spectators, altho this also was prohibited by the Militia Law (Section 31):

If any person, during parade, shall encroach on the bounds of the parade grounds, previously designated, or shall, then or there, sell, or offer to sell, or give away, any spiritous liquors, without permission of the commanding officers; or shall have in his possession any gambling table, or other gambling device; such person may be put or kept under guard by such commander, until the setting of the sun on the same day; and such liquor, gambling table, or other gambling device, may be abated, or destroyed, as a nuisance, by order of the commandant.

Old residents told of rough-and-tumble fights that sometimes occurred on these training days. Two brothers, Wemples from West Charlton, of local pugilistic fame would sometimes appear and always with a chip-on-the-shoulder, hoping that some one would have the temerity to knock it off. A wish that

if gratified, sometimes, so it is told, met with unexpected results to the Wemples.

While, as stated, training days of the Militia were regarded and observed as gala days by a large part of the residents of the area, yet there were a certain few who were not impressed with the glamour and hilarity accompanying these events. Among these was Simon I. Van Patten, a locally famous builder and contractor who owned and operated a saw-mill on the Conde creek where it crosses the Sacandaga Road. Van Patten, son of Capt. John Van Patten a veteran of the War of the Revolution, was a hard working and industrious man who deemed all days in which some useful work was not accomplished as wasted. In a journal or daily record kept by him, yet preserved, under date 1801 is a page headed "Black Days." Under this caption he listed training days. He was, it seems, a member of a militia company that existed a score of years before the time of our Glenville Horse Artillery. Attendance on training days was compulsory, hence the doleful entry thus listing the training days he was obliged to attend.

Van Patten also listed among his "Black Days" certain days "Being Sick." And we find an odd record of a day he regarded as wasted: "Going to your Uncle's" a visit evidently made with reluctance, doubtless planned and insisted on by his wife and family.

"RIGID RULES"

The State Militia Laws of the period were very strict and explicit as to the observance of the training days. On

the days appointed for parade the militia was considered under arms from the rising of the sun, to its setting on the same day. The commanding officer of the day was empowered to arrest and put under guard any bystander or spectator who shall abuse, molest or strike any one when on parade under arms. As mentioned before, the selling or giving away of spiritous liquors on the parade grounds was strictly prohibited. The thirsty ones had to wait until the sun went down. Furthermore, that the reviews and parades of the Militia "shall be conducted in an orderly and rightful manner," with all due respect to the Military arm of the State, no person or persons in the service, or without, as spectators, shall appear on the parade ground clad in an unusual or ludicrous manner or wearing a false face or other personal disguise, or found carrying arms, weapons, or other objects not customary to the occasions. Persons offending these provisions were to be at once committed to the local jail, for trial or court martial. From the enactment of the restrictive laws quoted, we can infer that earlier training days were marked with acts of buffoonery.

"RUNNING AT THE RING"

An old-time exercise practiced by some of our early mounted military companies, both Cavalry and Horse Artillery was called "Running At The Ring." In this exercise an iron ring about 4 or 5 inches in diameter was loosely suspended from the extreme end of a projecting arm affixed to a post set in the ground on the parade ground used by these mounted troops; past these

points they rode one by one, at full speed endeavoring to catch the ring on the point of their drawn sword or saber, as an early military writer has said:

"Running at the Ring is adapted for the particular purpose of training the swordsman to carry his point with certainty to any given space, which must be the result of repeated habit and long practice."

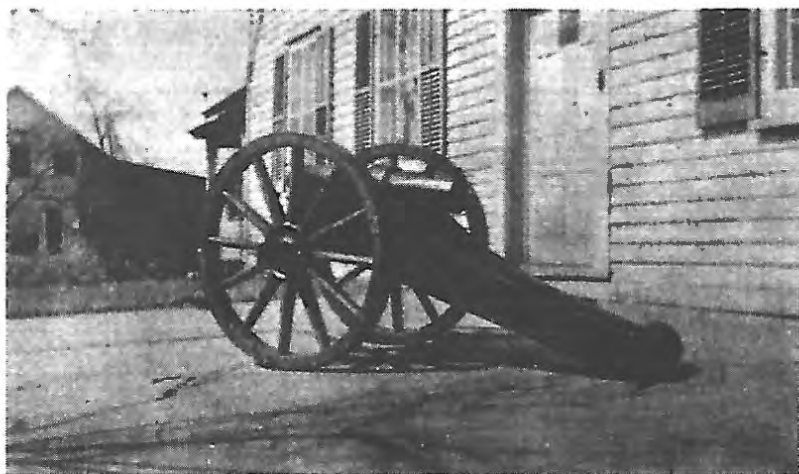
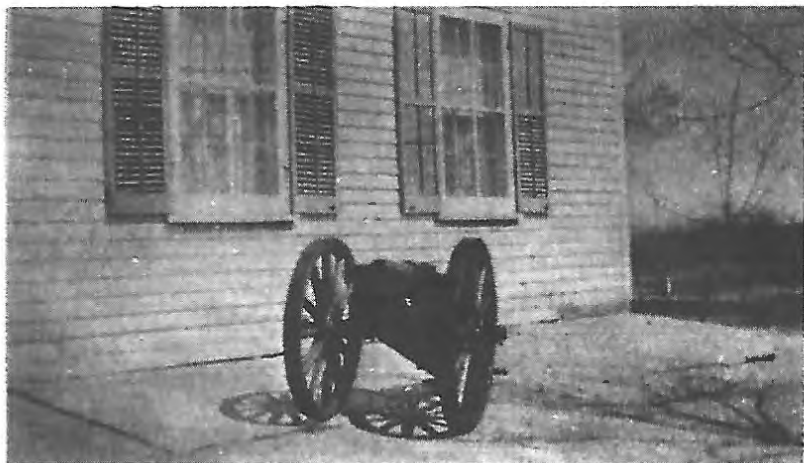
As proficiency was attained in catching this ring, rings of smaller and still smaller diameter were substituted. The writer of the paragraph quoted above gives exact directions for the erection of this post, accompanied by a diagram.

In the event that our mounted troopers might be engaged in combat with enemy infantry, the procedure of this trial of skill as given by the writer above quoted was some different. Instead of the iron ring, a ball of cloth about the size of a man's head, the mounted rider as he rode swiftly by was supposed to acquire skill in slicing this stuffed head with one blow of his sword or saber. Curious plates are shown by our old-time writer, depicting figures of the human head thus sliced or scarred by successful saber cuts.

This exercise of "Running at the Ring" perhaps was a survival of the days of "Knight-Errantry," when at the tilting matches or (Jousts) as they were called. Mounted Knights clad in Armor rode at full speed against an opponent likewise clad, striving to unhorse him by a well-aimed thrust with his long lance, purposely blunted for such occasions. Sir Walter Scott graphically describes an event of this kind in his romance "Ivanhoe."

Can it not be that the "Merry-Go-Round" of today with its wooden horses ridden by laughing children trying to catch rings as they circle by them, is not a survival of this old-time "Running At The Ring."

No records unfortunately have come to light showing that our local Horse Artillery practiced "Running At The Ring," however, they well may have done so.



**FIELD PIECE
OF
TYPE USED BY THE HORSE ARTILLERY**

The picture above shows a gun now owned by the Reich Family of Sacandaga Road.

These small guns were quite common in the last half of the eighteenth, and in the first half of the nineteenth century. They were mainly of two-inch bore and, were seldom if ever charged with ball, but were used for salutes and as alarm guns in the chain of blockhouses along the Mohawk.

CHAPTER FOUR

"INDEPENDENCE DAY"

A century ago, the Fourth of July, the recurring anniversary of our freedom from the lap-strings of Mama Britain and the consequent founding of a union of her erstwhile colonies was celebrated as a great national holiday; and a loud one, with much burning of powder, cannon-firing, bell-ringing and unrestrained outbursts of patriotic eagle-screaming oratory; a gala day and a day whose approach was welcomed with joy and anticipation by the young folks of the community as well as by many of the older ones; a day in which all labor except that strictly essential was foresworn. In the larger towns and in many of the smaller ones as well, public meetings were held in churches and halls, often preceded by a parade of some sort, headed of course by the Marshall of the day and his staff and the village band, closely followed by veterans of the War for Independence and of that of 1812 seated in carriages, the town officials and last but far from least the local military organization whose uniforms glistened with a profusion of large brass buttons, their freshly-polished weapons gleaming and their banners flying.

Schenectady area was no exception to the observance of Independence Day as depicted above and in whose observance our local company of the Horse Artillery took, it seems, an active and prominent part during the full three decades of its service as a unit of the Militia of the State. This we know from the

accounts of these celebrations as printed in the papers of Schenectady of that era, files of these more or less complete, preserved in the collections of our County Historical Society and in the Library of Union College.

"SCOTIA CELEBRATES"

In the year 1830, as we learn from the Schenectady Cabinet, for some reason or other unusually elaborate plans were made for the observance of Independence Day in Scotia, the scope of which would of course include the residents of the entire town of Glenville, for at that period the hamlets of Scotia and Reeseville together numbered probably less than 200 souls. Schenectady City it must be remembered then had, according to a census taken that year by Van Zandt, Deputy Marshall, a population of but 4,287; 1,819 in its first ward and 2,468 in the second ward. It had lost several thousand by the setting apart in 1820 of its third and fourth wards, as the newly-created towns of Rotterdam and Glenville.

In the latter part of June of 1830 a public meeting was held in Scotia, doubtless at the Inn kept by Bernard Cramer, at which a committee was appointed to make plans for this proposed gala day. Inasmuch as our Glenville unit of Colonel Joseph Consaul's Regiment of Horse Artillery took a prominent part in this notable observance of Independence Day and also for the light it sheds on the conduct of these celebrations of the last century, the account of the elaborate plans for its observance made by the Scotia committee, which were

carried out with but little change, will be here given as found in the columns of the Cabinet. The fourth of July falling on Sunday that year, the celebration was held Monday, July 5th.

"THE COMMITTEES PLANS"

Order of the Celebration of the 4th of July, on Monday the 5th of July, 1830. Thirteen guns to be fired at sunrise. At 10 o'clock a.m. the procession to form in front of Bernard Cramer's in the village of Scotia, in the following order, viz;

Capt. Garnsey's company of Flying Artillery, commanded by Lieut. J. A. Brooks.

Capt. Rees' company of Heavy Artillery.

Martial Music.

Capt. Bath's company of Light Infantry.

Military Officers in full uniform.

Revolutionary Officers and Soldiers with their Banners.

Orator and Reader of the Declaration of Independence.

The Trustees of the Town of Glenville, together with the Officers of the town, attended with their company and their staff.

The Sheriff and Deputies.

Judges and Magistrates, proceeded by the Constables with their insignia of office.

The Clergy.

Gentlemen of the Bar.

Medical Gentlemen.

Faculty and Students of Union College.

Citizens and Strangers.

The procession being thus formed will move down the dyke to Mr. Swart's opposite the Mohawk Bridge, and from thence to the Dutch Reformed Church at Scotia, where an oration will be delivered by John Brotherson, Esq. and the Declaration of Independence read by Capt. Caw.

The arrangement in the Church will be as follows:

The Trustees of the Town on the stage.

The Officers and Soldiers of the Revolution will occupy the first and second seats fronting the stage.

The Military officers the 3d, and 4th, seats fronting the stage.

The Judges and Magistrates the east half of the lower floor.

The Ladies the west half of the seats on the lower floor.

The Singers the front seats in the gallery fronting the stage, and

The Martial Music the 2nd and 3d seats fronting the gallery.

Capt. Garnsey's company (The Horse Artillery) commanded by Lieut. Brooks, and Capt. Rees' company on the west side of the gallery.

Schenectady Volunteers in the rear of the martial music.

Capt. Bath's Company and Capt. Caw's company, the east side of the gallery.

The house having been called to order, the exercises will be as follows:

1st. Music -- 2d. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Murphy -- 3d. Music -- 4th. Declaration of Independence -- 5th. Oration -- 6th. Music -- 7th. Prayer -- 8th. Music.

The exercises of the day having been concluded, the procession will then form as before and proceed to the banks of the

Lake, where the National Salute will be fired, consisting of 26 guns, and from there the procession will move to the house of Bernard Cramer, where a Sumptuous Dinner will be provided. The bells will continue ringing while the procession moves.

An evening gun will be fired at 9 o'clock.

Col. Benson is appointed Marshall of the day, and Lieut. Brooks, Deputy Marshall, each of whom are to be obeyed accordingly.

No person will be allowed to enter the Church, before the procession, except Ladies.

A committee of arrangements have been appointed, who will cause the most strict observance of order on that day. No expense or labor will be spared to render the proceedings both convenient and agreeable. The Church will be decorated with greens and shrubbery.

Benard Chamer.	I	
David F. Rees,	I	
James Caw Jr.	I	Committee of
Simon Glen,	I	Arrangements
Henry Brumaghim	I	

* * * * *

"MEANWHILE, OVER IN DORP"

Spurred no doubt by the news of the elaborate plans for the celebration of Independence Day made by Scotia's Committeemen and fearing lest such a little hamlet should outstrip them, some of Dorp's patriotic citizens belatedly brought about the appointment of a committee who probably did their best to plan an observance of the National Holiday that should equal if not excel that planned by the patriotic folk of Glenville, meanwhile causing scurrilous comments to be printed in the two local papers on the efforts of the Scotia committeemen.

Came the morning of the holiday. Despite the slowness of Dorp's committee coupled with the fact that the two or three military units of the city were taking part in the celebration over the river, a parade of sorts was drummed up whose route of march terminated at Wendell's "Mansion House," a notable inn of the Schenectady of that period, which stood on the north side of the Troy road, well outside the then east boundary line of the city; a place much favored for balls and social events.

Once at the Mansion House, the parade was disbanded and a dinner was served at which toasts were given and drunk. Two of these were recorded in the Cabinet of July 14; that given by John H. Van Eps, a guest. "Schenectady, one of the most ancient cities in the United States -- May the descendants of the first settlers imitate the virtue, patriotism and bravery of the ancient Belgia, their vader landt." This compliment to old Dorp was followed by a mean and scurrilous toast offered by one William M. Beal who, no doubt, inspired by the disappointed

committeemen of the day and perhaps by liberal songs of Host Wendell's gin, said: "Scotia, the dwelling place of the Knight of the bow and arrow -- the house of refuge for broken down actors and disappointed politicians." Just what this guest, evidently half-shot, meant by "the Knight of the bow and arrow" no one at this day seems able to explain.

Altogether, the spite celebration held in Schenectady seems to have been a tawdry affair compared with the successful one given in Scotia and to cap all and add to the chagrin of Dorp's Independence Day committeemen came the fiasco at the riverside where, at a point chosen no doubt because it was in full view from Scotia, probably at the old boat-building yard near the foot of Washington Avenue, it was planned to have a display of fireworks that should make the residents of that neighboring hamlet aware of the great event taking place over in Dorp. The supply of fireworks prepared for this proposed display of the evening was stored in a boat or scow at the river's edge, evidently unguarded, for boys playing with fire-crackers in some way set fire to this supply and with a great whizzing and banging the whole assortment went up in a cloud of smoke long before darkness came; so records the issue of "The Cabinet" in describing the events of the day. Thus ingloriously ended the celebration of Independence Day in the City of Schenectady in the year 1830.

"THE GREAT DAY DAWNS"

At last came the long expected day so eagerly looked forward to by the residents of Scotia and its area, and the celebra-

tion prepared was a great success, as we find from an account printed by Editor Riggs in the Cabinet, issue of July 14.

"The celebration at the village of Scotia, of the late Anniversary of America's Independence, exceeded the expectations of all present; not only in the largeness of the procession, which extended from the Mohawk bridge to the village of Scotia, but in the exercises of the day. Little more than one-half of the large assembly of people were able to crowd themselves into the Church, although it was well prepared for the reception of the audience--the decorations were arranged with elegance. The windows were literally crowded with people; and through the whole exercises the profoundest silence was observed. Among the audience were a number of the faculty and about sixty students from Union College.

Capt. J. Caw, Jr. read the Declaration of Independence, with emphasis; his introductory remarks were pertinent to the occasion, and we deem it a duty we owe to John Brotherson, Esq., the Orator of the day, (notwithstanding his solicitation) to say, that the oration delivered by him (which occupied nearly an hour) was creditable to his talents.

After the exercises of the day had been concluded, the procession returned to Mr. B. Cramer's Inn, where a dinner was provided. After dinner Maj. J. Fonda was called to the chair, and Barent Sanders appointed Secretary, when the following volunteer toasts were given:

By J. Fonda: The day we celebrate--May all nations in future observe a jubilee in commemoration of having regained the right of self-government.

By A. Vrooman: The twenty-six United States of North America-- May their vision prove perpetual and their happiness everlasting.

By Judge Sanders: North and South Columbia, twin sisters-- May their affection for each other become as strong and durable as the isthmus that unites them.

By J. Lighthall: The fair daughters of the twin sisters-- May they never bring forth a tyrant.

By A. Updyke: Our brethren of Great Britain-- May their condition be ameliorated, and their taxes and burdens be diminished, that the poor may enjoy comfort.

By W. Veeder: Andrew Jackson-- May his administration prove a blessing to his country.

By D. Pryme: Greece by her struggles has merited the right of self-government, yet unfortunately she is constrained to bend her neck to the defender of legitimacy.

By G. Haverley: May the American Eagle never be trodden under foot.

By H. Reese: When the revolutionary soldiers shall sink into the dream of eternity, to rise no more, may their spirits be deeply planted in the bosom of the rising generation.

By P. Brotherson: The Dutch-- May they always support those principles which were imparted with them, truth, honor, economy and a love of country, and may they never be poisoned by the filth which flows from the warmth of party zeal.

By H. Brooks: The memory of General Washington.

By P. Sanders: Union, Liberty, and the constitution-- May they last as long as the "Earth bears a plant or the sea rolls a wave."

By B. Sanders: The Navy of the United States--with equal force the superior of the world.

By Capt. Lighthall: Health to the sick--honor to the brave--success to the lover--and freedom to the slave.

By J. Brotherson: Health to General Jackson, but success to Henry Clay.

By J. Caw, Jr.: Koscisko--
Inscribed with virtue and true liberty:
While Kings shall die, and oblivion's shade
Veils the vile things that slaves and cowards made,
His name shall flourish and his memory soar,
Till sun shall wane and time shall be no more.
Warsaw's martyr, his name shall ever be.

By J. Sanders: Maj. Fonda, the man who first raised the flag inscribed (Liberty or Death) in the City of Schenectady."

After the above toasts were given, the committee waited on Mr. John Brotherson, the Orator of the day to solicit the text of his oration for publication. To this reasonable request Attorney Brotherson made reply with a flat refusal. This refusal, a burst of violent abuse almost as long as his original oration, gave Brotherson, who was a rank political partisan, a chance to deride and defame those who might happen to read his oration of the morning, the brainless ones who by their votes in the recent election had helped seat Andrew Jackson as the seventh President of the United States. Brotherson had evidently foreseen that the text of his morning's talk would be asked of him and had forthwith prepared this scathing re-

fusal of great length which Editor Riggs of the Cabinet, though denied the text of the morning's oration, readily secured as Brotherson doubtless had planned, and which appeared in the next issue of the Cabinet. Brotherson's refusal was given in high flown language, rising at times to oratoric flights of a Cicero, in which he based his refusal on the dumbness of mind on his political opponents; it would be like casting pearls before swine.

Thus came to an end the highly successful Independence Day Observance in Scotia of July 5, 1833; a notable celebration which perhaps has never since been equaled there.

* * * * *

CHAPTER FIVE

"JOHN BROTHERSON"

John Brotherson, the orator of Scotia's celebration record recorded above, was born at Blue Corners, Saratoga County, in the month of June, 1806, the son of "Phillip" Brotherson. The Brothersons were an influential and well-to-do family of New York City who early in the last century left the Metropolis making their new home in the extreme south-western corner of Saratoga County. The hamlet chosen for their residence was even then known as Blue Corners. Here stood in Colonial days a hotel of some little fame kept by one B'lieu from whom the hamlet derived its name.

The Brotherson family occupied for many years this old hotel, a large rambling unpainted structure. With the Brotherson's, came to the Blue Corners area another family from New York, the Kissam's, seemingly close friends of the Brothersons. These two families evidently were adherents of Trinity Church for we find that shortly after their arrival, the corporation of that famous church built and maintained at Blue Corners Saint Mary's, also a schoolhouse. This little church of which a fine picture is shown in W. Max Reid's book, "The Mohawk Valley" was abandoned as a parish church by Trinity, at the removal and dispersal of the Kissam and Brotherson families. It stood for many years in a ruinous state, as thus shown in Reid's book. All that is visible today of this little church is its foundation walls.

"LAWYER BROTHERSON GOES TO BALLSTON"

In the 1860s, we find John Brotherson established and practicing his legal profession in Ballston Spa., in which village he lived until his death October 14, 1887. Here at the breaking out of the Civil War a public meeting was held at which Lawyer Brotherson spoke and with his usual rancour and vehemence, gave vent to his hatred and contempt for the policies of the Northern States of the Union, with the seceding States of the South. For this he was severely called to account and reproved by the Chairman of the meeting, Mr. C.C. Hill. A few years later we find Attorney Brotherson at the head of a group of Spiritualists, then quite numerous in Ballston, in fact they built a large meeting place there, which they called Centennial Hall. In this Hall seances were held in which the Spirits of the long-time dead were involved.

In one of these Seances the Spirit of Benjamin Franklin, called up by the Mediums, told a Mr. Hyde, a member of the group present, that, should he cause well-sinkers to drill at a designated spot on his land he would thus obtain a valuable Mineral Spring. Mr. Hyde, duly impressed by this revelation soon caused drillers to start the work, and shortly a Spring of mineralized water was found, as Benjamin had foretold. This new spring, of course, was at once named the "Franklin Spring". The finding of this Spring on the property of Mr. Hyde probably caused little or no surprise to those of the region who were familiar with the underground geology of the area; successful drilling for Mineral Springs both in Ballston and in near-by

Saratoga had shown that at a depth of some hundreds of feet there was a continuous stratum of lime stone thoroughly saturated with Mineral Waters.

"THE BROOKS HOTEL"

On the Mohawk Turnpike, just three and 3/4 miles from the Western Gateway Bridge there stands on the north side of the road, if indeed it has not been raised during the past few months in the construction of the great Scotia Naval Depot, a large two-story framed house, built early in the last century. This structure with its old-time simplicity and its severe lines, in recent years sadly manhandled, was long one of the famous chain of inns that stood at intervals along the whole extent of the Mohawk Turnpike, a road chartered in the year 1800. The heyday of this inn was of course from the time of its building until the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 and the opening of the railroad from Schenectady to Utica in 183 . Then, as the great freight traffic and the era of the stage coaches that daily passed in great numbers came to a sudden end, dwindled the prosperity of the Brooks Inn, finally coming to a complete end. In fact, for nearly two decades following the middle of the century or until the advent of the bicycle and the automobile the Mohawk Turnpike was a little-travelled highway. The author of this paper well remembers riding its length more than once from Hoffmans to Scotia in the 1860s and 1870s, perhaps without meeting a single wagon or conveyance. The old lady who attended the toll gate just west of the Walton Creek at our approach, after receiving the few cents toll charge would grasp a rope

thus raising the ladderlike barrier across the road, granting free passage.

Today the Brooks house and the farm land connected with it, some few acres -- has become part of the extensive grounds of the United States Naval Depot whose great buildings, erected 1942-1943 and officially placed in Government service in March 1943, occupy over 300 acres and with a frontage on the Mohawk Turnpike extended from the crossing of the Boston and Maine Railroad nearly to the western line of the Village of Scotia, a distance of nearly two miles.

The old Brooks Tavern was the headquarters, the Armory, and its level acres the training and parade ground of our Glenville company of Horse Artillery for a number of years, if indeed not for the whole forty-odd years of its existence. Here on appointed days, two or more times each year the members of the company, coming from all parts of the county would ride in, secure their equipment and gather for formation on the ground selected for the review and drill of the day.

"THE MUSICIANS"

As to the martial music that enlivened the parade and drill of our Glenville Horse Artillery, by the Militia Law of the State, Section 20, their number was limited. "The musicians, not exceeding three in number, shall be appointed by the commandant of each uniform company." For a regiment or separate battalion a band of 16 pieces and an appointed leader was allowed. The term, battalion was applied to a group of three or more separate companies of either infantry, cavalry or of

artillery not yet consolidated with a regiment. This was exactly the status of our Glenville Horse Artillery at the time of its organization and for a few years thereafter, while, of course, classed as State Militia and subject to all the rules and provisions governing such bodies.

The term "Band," used in the foregoing cause, means simply a grouping or aggregation of the musicians of the various companies in a battalion; in short, all the fifers and drummers with possibly a few bugle players, gathered at the field day and reviewed the entire battalion or regiment. Imagine the despair of the unfortunate leader, if he had any musical acumen, when he had to head a group of drums of all sizes and tones and some eight or ten fifes, these likely to be of different keys, pitched in C,D and even smaller ones in E-flat, trying to play in unison the "White Cocade", or "Washington's March," or possibly "The Girl I Left Behind Me." All these tunes were in use at that period, as well as the fifes of the different keys mentioned, each fifer having learned his tunes in the easy, natural key of his instrument; transposition to him a sealed book.

The word "Band" too, of the State Law must not be confused with an idea of the military bands of today with their rich and varied instrumentation. We have no record of such bands in connection with military organizations till the time of the Civil War. Indeed, the valved family of horns did not come in use till the late 1840s.

The musicians of our Glenville Horse Artillery must have found it rather difficult to play their instruments when on

horseback, especially so the fifers. Perhaps during the review and drills at the Brooks place they may have stood unmounted at one side. We do know, however, that these instruments were used at the training days held there, and fortunately we have knowledge of at least two of the tunes these musicians used. Mrs. Ella (Van Patten) Hurst, now living in Fairfax County, Virginia, says that her father, Charles Conde Van Patten, a native of Glenville and a member of the Horse Artillery, attended the training days held at the Brooks Inn, and told of the musicians playing "The Girl I Left Behind Me," and "Bonapart Crossing the Alps." These, said she, were the only tunes he was able to distinguish. Digressing, a curious lack of musical perception in a greater or less degree, a lack of sense of tune or rhythm, if it can thus be termed, was a well-known characteristic of one branch of the Van Pattens of Glenville.

Lack of normal musical perception seemed no bar, however, to Charles Van Patten's acquirement of a wife at the Brooks Hotel, for he married Satie, locally known as the "Belle of the Mohawk Turnpike," daughter of landlord Christian Brooks.

Besides the fifes and drums commonly used in the military companies of the period, bugles were sometimes used. Charles Conde from the Sacandaga Road who enlisted in the Horse Artillery in 1821 was a bugle player, at least for part of his seven-years service. The bugles were likely of the keyless kind, used for military calls, on which only the open tones, so called, could be sounded, in distinction from the so-called Kent bugle on which a complete chromatic scale could be played, found in bands until the invention of the valved cornet.

"ROUNDING OUT THE DAY"

By the State Militia Laws, Training Days were to end at sunset, but in the long summer days it is more than likely that the captain of our Glenville Horse Artillery would, at the reviews and drills held at the Brooks place, dismiss his company long before sunset, as many of his men had to ride from five to ten miles to reach their homes. However, for those who wished to round out the day after the customary fashion of the period, there was a bounteous supper waiting in the big dining room of the Inn, quite often followed by dancing in the ballroom over the long horseshed. Here, girls and young men from the turnpike and adjacent areas, together with such of the members of the Company that would stay, would gather, finding the musicians, generally a couple of violins and a "bass-viol," as the cello was then called, with sometimes a flute and still more rarely a squeaky boxwood clarinet, seated on a low platform scraping and tuning their instruments.

On with the dance! "Fill up the floor; get your corners for a Square!" For an hour or more quadrilles would be in order with now and then The Lancers or a waltz. Then would come a short intermission.

When the time came to resume the dance there sometimes would seem a noticeable thinning out of the men and boys. Many of the girls looked in vain for their erstwhile partners who had begged to be excused for a few moments. However, after a little delay, enough "wall-flowers" and bashful ones would be coaxed on the floor to fill out the sets and the dance would go on through perhaps with lessened vim.

"AN ILLEGAL SPORT"

Meanwhile, if followed, the missing men and boys would have been seen in groups of two, three or more edging their way to an old barn standing not far away, but on the opposite side of the pike. Despite the screening on its few windows furtive gleams of light from cracks in its siding told that the interior was lighted.

Inside, the old barn would have been found dimly lighted by a few tin lanterns each with its tallow candle, and clustered around a low pen-like inclosure the missing men and boys eagerly watching two game cocks fighting and sparring at each other. Sometimes, indeed, these unfortunate battling birds would be armed with cruelly-devised sharp steel spurs affixed to their legs.

At the close of each round of these battle-royals bets lost on the result would be paid or chalked up, followed by a round of drinks brought in from the bar of the hotel.

At this period tavern-keepers were bonded under penalty by the Town Commissioners of Excise: "During the time he shall keep a tavern, he shall not suffer it to be disorderly, or suffer any cock-fighting, gaming, or playing with cards, or dice, or keep any billiard table, or other gaming table, within the tavern so by him kept, or in any out-house, yard, or garden belonging thereto." Despite this legal prohibition it is well-known, however, that the cruel and debasing so-called sport of cock-fighting was surreptitiously carried on in our area during the last century. Evasion of the law was easily brought about: "A cock-fight did you say? Well, there might have been one in

the old barn yonder, on no-man's-land, but not on my premises, no, sir!"

In the "Record Book of the Maalwyck School," kept by the schoolmaster of this, the first school of which we have any knowledge in our Glenville area, perhaps the first established north of the Mohawk River, we find an entry under the date Jan. 7, 1786, recording a debt to Nicholas Viele and Lawrence Schermerhorn, innkeepers; "by my reckoning at Cockfighting;" evidently a battle-royal this, for the next day we find him back at the inn, evidently to talk over the battle of the preceding night, where he incurs an additional debt of one shilling for "two nips of Toddie."

John Hetherington, the versatile Maalwyck Schoolmaster, whose record book which fortunately has been preserved, kept for a period of years, perhaps for the whole time he was at the Maalwyck, was a jack-of-all-trades; efficient schoolmaster, preacher at times if the occasion demanded, connoisseur and collector of old firearms, his own tailor if need be, who sprinkled his record with Greek and Latin quotations as well as some in the Hebrew characters, along with the record of his school kept a running series of personal accounts, receipts and expenditures, all entered with meticulous neatness and care, be the same involved ever so small, sketchy items from which much of interest relative to the period can be learned.

The Maalwyck, was the name given a notable whirl-pool near the north bank of the Mohawk River, about opposite the west end

of the present village of Scotia. Here on the River's Bank opposite this whirl-pool stood the Maalwyck House, an early home built of imported brick, perhaps the third house built in the Scotia area. The first River Road westward ran beside this house as we know from a military map of our Mohawk region made by British Army Engineers some little time before the War of the Revolution. On this map we find the Maalwyck House, shown by this name. Both the Maalwyck House and this part of the River Road were finally abandoned, the course of the road was relocated, and now is the present Mohawk Avenue of Scotia. Clustered around this Maalwyck House a few smaller houses were built and among these stood the little school-house where John Hetherington taught. During the period of his teaching, this first school-house was torn down, and a new one built on the changed River Road at the foot of the present Sacandaga Road. This new structure still and for many years, was known as the Maalwyck School.

Hetherington also taught, probably one or two days of each week, at what was known as the Bouwland School which was situated directly across the river in the present town of Rotterdam.

"IN OTHER STATES"

With the meager accounts available of the early training days in our town and area, as given above, it is interesting to note what a noted Congregational divine of New England, Dr. Thomas Robbins, says of the conduct of these occasions in his native State, Connecticut. In his "Diary," published in two large volumes in 1886, kept almost daily from 1796 to 1854, the worthy

Domine, teaching school at Danbury weekdays and preaching Sundays, records under date May 5th, 1800:-

Dined with the military company. The Militia here appear very well. Training here on the green today, in the evening all hands dance. Even the least of my school join the game. No less than four different sets are dancing this evening.

To this "Tarbox, Dr. Robbins, able editor and annotator adds: "First Monday in May training day in Connecticut, largely a holiday. In Danbury it was kept as a thorough holiday, young and old joining in the festivities." September first of the same year Dr. Robbins records, though deploring the fact that his school children dance.

Had no school it being a training day. The greater part of my school children dance. It being customary here I cannot prevent it. I do not believe a town in the State can produce so respectable a militia as this. Two companies of infantry one of cavalry, and one of artillery, all in uniform.

The old Connecticut rule was: for the spring training, the first Monday in May and for the fall training, the first Monday in September. Regimental training, when held, took place on alternate years in the latter part of September. On one of these latter occasions held in September in the year 1800, Dr. Robbins writes that he dined with the field officers. Another time he attended a regimental training at East Hartford where he "rode as a chaplain." In the course of his diary he occasionally records making prayers before military companies; possibly as an appointed chaplain, for in September of 1885, after receiving a military warning, he buys a cockade, for which he pays \$1.33. "A great price," he records, with Yankee thrift.

Incidentally, Dr. Robbins, whose illuminating remarks on training days in old Connecticut have been freely quoted above, was a classmate at Williams College, an intimate friend and lifelong correspondent of Dirk Romeyn, who was instrumental in the founding of our Union College.

"INDEPENDENCE DAY IN
THE CONTINENTAL ARMY"

Records show that special observance of Independence Day was held in the American army even before the close of the Revolution. In this connection, inasmuch as it has a certain interest to our area, for the two hundred and odd batteaux that were essential to the success of the Clinton-Sullivan punitive expedition against the hostile Indians of central New York in 1779, were each and every one made in Dorp's famous boat yard at the north end of Washington Avenue. Therefore, we will quote at some length from a journal kept that year by Lieut. Parker Lamb, who was in command of a company of Artillery, part of Gen. Sullivan's force, then assembling at Otsego Lake:-

June 14. Marched from Albany with Capt. Wool's Blisse & Porters Company of Artillery. Arrived in Scanactady 4 o'clock P.M. Crossed the Mohawk River and encamped on the North Side. Dit. 17 miles. The Country from Albany to Scanactady is very light sandy soil that produceth little else but scrubby Pines. Scanactady is a very pleasant town situated on the South Side of the Mohawk River. It contains about four hundred houses built regular in a very fertile spot of land.

June 15. At 2 o'clock we embarked on board two 9 (200.?) Batteaux loaded with Military Stores. Proceeded five miles up the River and encamped on the North Side.

This overnight encampment, five miles up the river, would have been almost exactly at the Glenville end of the Boston & Maine R.R. bridge, or at the very sight of "Tinker Hill," the brick house of Lieut. Teunis Swart, fortified and palisaded during the French and Indian War. Leaving this camp at Tinker Hill, Lieut. Lamb records that much trouble was had in getting his heavily loaded batteaux over the many rifts encountered. Once at Canajoharie, Lieut. Lamb's artillery and supplies, and his craft was taken from the river, placed on heavy wagons and drawn over the hills to the head of the lake, as was done with the whole 200 Schenectady boats, a difficult portage over a road chopped out for this purpose.

Placed again on the water, the 200 batteaux carried the troops and equipment to the foot of the lake, the source of the Susquehanna River, where they arrived on the afternoon of July 3d -- a rendezvous for Gen. Sullivan's whole force. Lieut. Lamb then tells how Independence Day was there observed:-

July 4. The 4th. being the anniversary of Independence, the troops were paraded on the banks of the lake when thirteen pieces of cannon were discharged together with a running fire of musketry 3 times along the line with as many huzzas from the troops, after which they all marched to the grand parade when an excellent discourse was delivered suitable to the occasion by the Rev'd Doct. Gano, Chaplin for the New York Brigade.

CHAPTER SIX

"CAPTAINS AND PRIVATES"
 OF
 "THE HORSE ARTILLERY"
 "AND THEIR FLAG"

Due to the few records yet found it cannot be definitely stated who was the first Captain of the HORSE ARTILLERY, that unit of our State Militia in the Schenectady area of the period treated in this paper beginning in the year 1820. An enlistment paper dated June 4, 1821, of Charles Conde was signed by Joseph Consaul, "Captain Commanding HORSE ARTILLERY." This Joseph Consaul, who was in later years a Colonel of the Regiment of which the HORSE ARTILLERY was a unit at this period, 1821, was the appointed Captain. However, we learn from a discharge of a member of the HORSE ARTILLERY of the 1830s, we find that the officer who signed this paper was not only the Captain of the organization but was also a Major of the Regiment of which this troop was a unit.

"THE CONSAUL FAMILY"

Colonel Joseph Consaul, presumably, a son of David Consauls, was a boy of eighteen years at the time of the attack on their family. He with his mother and youngest brother and sister fled for protection from their back-woods home twelve miles north of Schenectady when in 1782 their home was attacked by a band of marauding St.Regis Indians in which attack the father of the family and his oldest son Emanuel were killed, and his second son John was taken captive to Canada.

Joseph Consaules (Gonzalez) the father of David came to this area in 1770 where he contracted for several thousand acres of wild forest-land in the extreme southwest corner of the Great Kayaderosseras Patent, the southern margin of this tract chosen by Gonzales overlapped slightly the northern border of our present Town of Glenville. At this point by the roadside stands a tablet, erected by the State Education Department, marking the site of the Consaules home.

Gonzalez was a descendant of Emanuel Gonzalez, a Spanish Huguenot who came to America in his own ship, so it is said, about the beginning of the Eighteenth Century settling first in the Lower Hudson Area not far from New York.

The large area contracted by Joseph was mainly lost to the family at the time of the Massacre. The son John, after his release from Canada in the year 1785, secured a portion of this tract on which he built a large framed house which is still standing (1946). This is said to have been the first framed house built in that part of Saratoga County.

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"CAPTAIN GARNSEY"

From a manual or book of instruction in the use of the sword for cavalry we find this autographed signature "LEVI GARNSEY, HALF MOON August 3-1825." From this we may justly infer that Levi Garnsey became the Captain of the HORSE ARTILLERY, at the date given and that he here inscribed his name at the time of his appointment to this position, for this old Cavalry manual was passed in turn to three succeeding Cap-



ADAM CONDE VAN PATTEN

1810 - 1888

tains, and bears their signature, to wit: ADAM C. VAN PATTEN:
SIMON V.P. CALKINS AND RANSOM KNIGHTS.

Levi Garnsey was born at Half Moon or Crescent, Saratoga County, but we have no record of the date of birth. The oldest record we have of this family states that they came to America from the Isle of Gurnsey in 1639 settling on their arrival in Conn. A branch of the family removed to Dutchess County, N.Y. from which place the father of Captain Garnsey came to our area. The name of this family has been variously spelled, i.e.: "Guernsye"; "Gernsye"; "Gornsey"; "Gernsey"; and "Guernsey."

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"CAPTAIN VAN PATTEN"

Adam Conde Van Patten in 1934 succeeded Levi Garnsey as Captain of the HORSE ARTILLERY. Captain Van Patten born in Glenville, January 19, 1810, was the second son of Simon John Van Patten contractor and builder, of the Sacandaga Road, Glenville. Early in life he learned the carpenter trade which at intervals he followed throughout the whole course of his life. In the 1850s he conducted the Hotel and general store in the Village of Glenville. In the early 60s, he purchased a farm in Fairfax County, Va. on which, however, he never lived, until some few years after the close of the Civil War, but purchased a house and lot in the city of Washington, D.C. where with his family he lived for several years, there following his trade as carpenter. The site of this humble home of the Van Patten family is now covered by the Great Congressional Library. Leaving Washington about 1878 he moved to his farm

in Va. where he remained until his death in 1888. His burial was in the cemetery in the Village of Glenville. He was survived by his wife, Maria Groot, and two daughters.

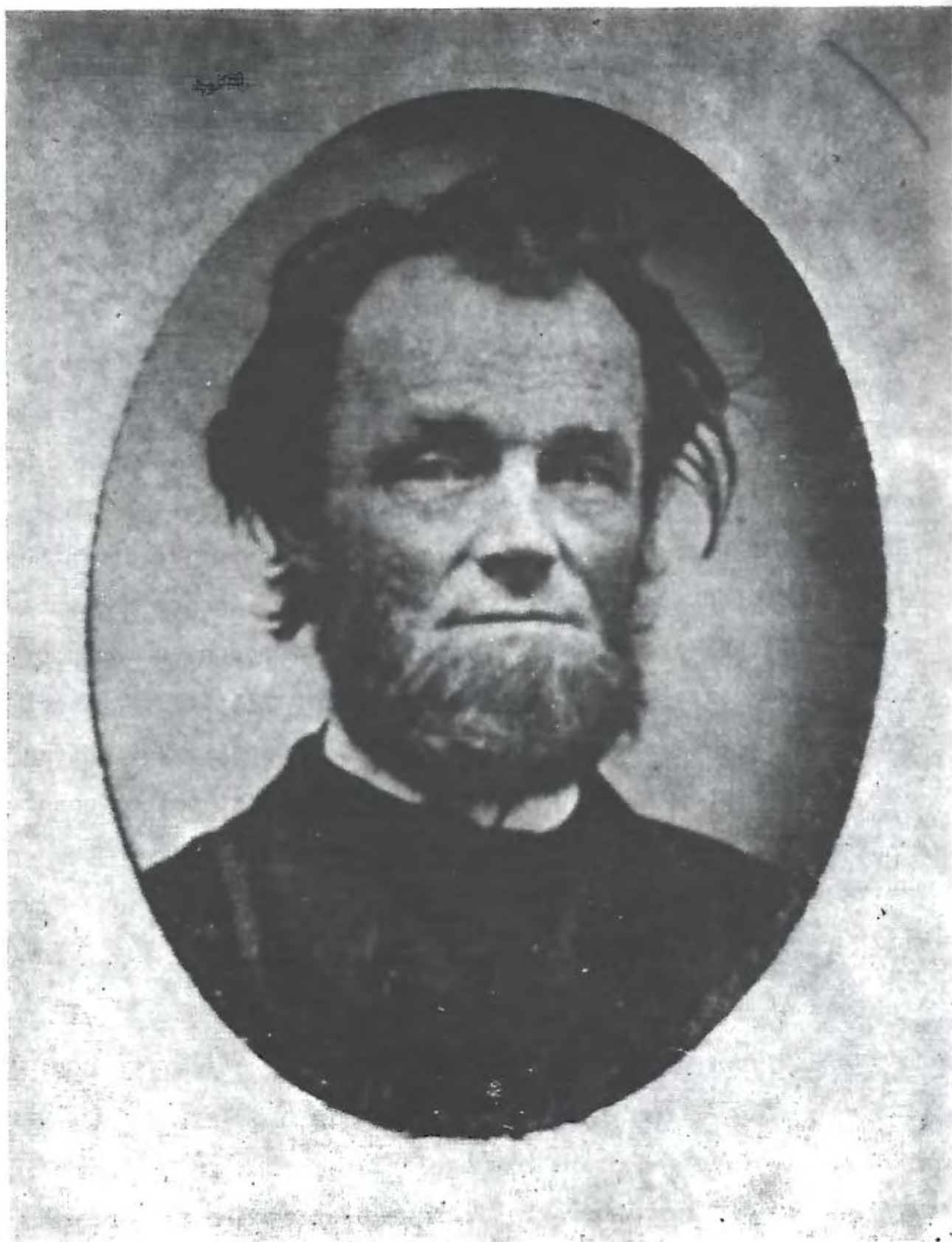
Captain Van Patten was an active man in business, and in politics he was one of the "Old Line Democrats." He was three times elected Supervisor of Glenville, in 1846 - 1850 - and in 1851. His Va. farm "Willow Springs" was quite close to the "Bull Run Battle Field." The buildings and forest were badly shot-up in this engagement.

Adam Conde Van Patten, was the sixth in direct line of descent from Claas Frederickse Van Patten the first bearing that family name coming to America. His paternal grandfather, John Van Patten, served with distinction throughout the whole course of the Revolution as Captain of the Second Company of Colonel Wemple's Regiment of Albany County Militia. At the final Battle of Saratoga in October 1777, Captain Van Patten was publicly commended for heroic action and given the honor of carrying to Albany the official dispatch telling of the surrender of Burgoyne's Army.

* * * * *

"CAPTAIN CALKINS"

Simon Van Patten Calkins, the eldest son of Willis (N) and Sarah Van Patten Calkins, was born in Glenville in the year 1821. Here he spent his early life. Leaving home at the age of eighteen years he found employment in the crockery store of George H. Glen, on State Street, Schenectady. He was engaged in various mercantile pursuits for several years.



SIMON V. P. CALKINS

1821 - 1899

Then he was appointed teacher in the Old Lyceum on College Street. The boys in that school had become a terror to every principal and the trustees found difficulty in inducing anyone to undertake the task of subduing the young imps. Calkins finally consented to make an attempt. In case of failure, he agreed to forfeit his salary.

The first day the boys commenced their usual tricks with beans and putty-blowers. Calkins calmly stood the fusillade until he gained sufficient and conclusive proof against one of the culprits. He then walked down the aisle and gave the youth such a lesson in the manly art that no more trouble developed during his term.

He then abandoned educational work and entered the law office of the Hon. Platt Potter. After completing his course, he was admitted to the Bar.

He commenced his practice at Fultonville, Montgomery County, but about the year 1856, returned to Schenectady where he practiced continuously for over forty years. In 1856 he was appointed District Attorney to complete an unexpired term.

Succeeding Captain Van Patten, Attorney Calkins took command of the HORSE ARTILLERY in the year 1840. During his Military service we find that Captain Calkins held a double position, for in the discharge papers of Harmanus Van Eps, dated 1846, we find his signature as follows: "S.V.P. CALKINS CAPTAIN and COMMANDERY OFFICER OF BATTALIAN, MAJOR 1st. BATTALIAN HORSE ARTILLERY."

SIMON CALKINS was one of the most odd and unique characters that ever lived in our area. Could his trite sayings be

recorded, together with a story of his many and laughable escapades trying to drive half-broken colts and bronchos, one of his favorite pastimes, be placed in print, they would make a good-sized volume. He never was married, but lived in bachelor's quarters practically all of his later life. He died in 1899 and was buried in the family plot in the Glenville Cemetery.

THE CALKINS FAMILY IN AMERICA is descended from HUGH CALKINS said to have been born in England about 1600, died in 1690. He came to America with a "Welsh Colony" under the Rev. Richard Slieman, bringing his wife and four children. We first find him at Greens Harbour, Plymouth Colony, where he was made freeman in 1740: later at Cape Ann and Gloucester. Five years later he moved to New London, Conn.; Representative to the Massachusetts Court 1650 to 1652 from Gloucester; Deputy twelve times from New London, to the Conn. Assembly 1652 to 1660, also was a member of the Conn. Legislature from 1663 to 1671. He served on War Committee as selectman, fortifying, drafting soldiers and boundaries and surveying, which latter he had evidently been retained for in England. Certain descendants of Hugh, leaving Conn. settled in Saratoga County, N.Y. From this branch of the family Nathan Jewett Calkins came to Glenville, N.Y. where his son Willis, the father of Captain Simon Calkins was born.

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"CAPTAIN KNIGHTS"

RASDOM KNIGHTS, appointed Captain of the Company of HORSE ARTILLERY, was the son of Minard Knights and his wife Rachel

Lawson, who moving from his birth-place in Stillwater, Saratoga County, went with his family at an early date to a tract, locally known as the Sugar Bush, situated near the eastern border of Montgomery County, on the head-waters of the Eva's Kill. Here in the year 1806 his son Ransom was born. The family finally moved from the "SUGAR BUSH" farm to a new home in the Fourth Ward of the City of Schenectady, now the Town of Glenville. Here, with his wife Jane Davidson, he secured a farm adjoining his father's where he lived the remainder of his life. A daughter of Ransom, Sarah Elizabeth, became the wife of Reuben Groot, who became Captain of the HORSE ARTILLERY at the time of its reorganization when its name was changed to "THE WASHINGTON CONTINENTALS."

Captain Knights died in 1855, and is buried in the Glenville Cemetery.

The KNIGHTS family in Glenville is descended from Sir John Knight who came to this country from England in his own ship it is said. On Oct. 25, 1687 the Colonial Council of New York granted to John Knight a patent for a tract of land situated on the Roundout Creek, in Ulster County, between the lands belonging to Anna Beck and Jacob Rudsen, as recorded in the Council Minutes. This tract of three thousand acres became well known as "KNIGHTS-FIELD." In the latter half of the eighteenth Century a branch of this family, leaving the middle Hudson Valley, came to Stillwater, N.Y. where, as stated, Captain Ransom Knights was born.

In England John Knight was a member of the King's body guard; probably at this time had Knighthood conferred on him,

for he was always referred to as Sir John Knight.

Sir John brought with him to America the elaborate uniform worn by him in the service of the King. Aunts of Ransom Knights told of seeing this uniform and describing it, as being stiff with gold lace.

* * * * *

"CAPTAIN GROOT"

Reuben Groot, the son of Reuben and Margaret (Blaine) Groot was born on his father's farm in the Town of Duanesburg in the year 1825. His mother, Margaret Blaine was the daughter of Patrick Blaine of Blainsfield, an estate on the Schenectady-Albany Highway. This once well-known estate was on the east side of the highway near the intersection of the Balltown Road. The Ingersol Home occupies a portion of this estate.

It is believed that Blaines-field was confiscated by the Colonial authorities at the close of the War of the Revolution, as it is known that Blaine was an ardent Tory.

When in 1849, the discovery of gold was announced in California young Reuben Groot became one of the many Argonauts who hastened to that land. Here he spent some little time, but, disappointed, left that place with little or no gold and certainly without a "Golden Fleece" like that sought by Jason of old and his fellow voyagers. Groot's return was by the way of the Pacific, landing at a Port of Nicaragua. Here he found that unhappy State in one of its periodic revolutions; it was the opening stages of the Walker rebellion. The vessel in which he crossed Nicaragua was under a murderous gunfire.



REUBEN GROOT

1826 - 1920

Finally making his way to the east coast, he spent some little time at Punta Arenas. Here, was then stationed a small body of U.S. Marines, "The American Guard" under command of Captain Crawford Fletcher, placed here to protect American interests. The Guard then was quartered on the vessel "The Northern Light" and Groot joining them there was at once made First Lieutenant. The Port then was the scene of great disorder; the United States Consul had been seized and imprisoned, though soon released by the Guard; lives of American residents were endangered, as straggling bodies of rival Revolutionists were daily arriving and a battle seemed eminent. In the fourth of June rival groups met at Karne Point, on San Wan River in a general engagement which was broken up by the American Guard, though unfortunately Captain Fletcher was killed.

Lieutenant Groot taking command, though shot through his hand, gallantly dispersed the contestants and led his men to safety. Following the usual ending of these combats the rival groups threw down their arms and joined in a mutual drinking bout which lasted until the supply of liquor gave out.

In recognition of the service Lieut. Groot performed as acting Captain after the death of Captain Fletcher, he was later presented a handsome sword whose scabbard bears the inscription: Presented to First Lieut. R. Groot by the Officers and men of the American Guard. Punto Arenas Cent. Americi. July 3rd, 1854.

This memento, brought with Lieut. Groot on his return to the United States, was for a long time lost sight of but through the efforts of his daughter, Mrs. Samuel McCrea Brann

of Springfield, South Dakota, was recently found after an intensive search leading through three States of the mid-west and presented by her to our Schenectady Historical Society and is now in their collection at 13 Union Street.

Returning to his native state, Lieut. Groot came to the Village of Glenville where his brother-in-law, Adam Conde Van Patten, a former Captain of the Horse Artillery, then conducted a Hotel and General Store.

Lieut. Groot found on his arrival in Glenville that a new Military Company was there being formed: "The Washington Continentals." The older organization, The Horse Artillery, having been disbanded, Lieut. Groot, no doubt by reason of his recent service in the American Guard in Central America, was at once chosen Captain of this Company. It was uniformed in Colonial style, blue swallow-tailed coats with buff facings and gilt buttons.

The new company, when its organization was completed, automatically became a unit of the State Militia, receiving designation as: 26 Regiment, under command of Colonel S. Yates. The headquarters and Armory of this new Company was in the Village of Glenville, the place of its organization. It is not known if the Washington Continentals were a mounted troop, or an Infantry Company.

No Muster-Rolls of the Horse Artillery have yet come to light. We have only the list of its successive Captains and the names of a very few of its privates, historically valuable as such a list would be, though lengthy, covering its thirty-

odd years of existence, its membership naturally changing each seven years. However, we fortunately have a Roll, or Roster of the Washington Continentals prepared by Capt. Groot. To this Roll Captain Groot added in later years data regarding the past certain members of the Continentals took in the Civil War. For its interest and historic value to the residents of our town, this Muster-Roll as prepared by Captain Groot will be given in full at the close of this paper.

In the 1860s, Captain Groot became a partner with his brother Garrett in the Hotel and Store at Glenville; later, he opened a carriage-painting shop. During this period he served as Town Clerk. In the 1870s, he was elected for two terms as Supervisor of the Town. In the 1880s, he moved to Springfield, South Dakota. There he became a partner in the banking and real-estate business with his brother-in-law, The Hon. George W. Snow.

After a period of business activity Captain Groot traveled extensively through the Southern States, a valued correspondent for the Press of his State. Later, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. McCrea Brann, he toured the Southwestern States and, together they visited various points in Mexico, stopping for a time in Mexico City.

Captain Groot died at Springfield, South Dakota, in 1920, and was buried in the family plot at Glenville. He was twice married, his first wife, Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of Ransom and Jane Davidson Knights, died in 1865. His second wife, Phebe Ann, daughter of Johnson and Susan Romeyn Potter, died in 1885.

"T H E I R F L A G"

The Flag or Standard carried by the Horse Artillery, possibly the only flag owned by this organization, is now preserved in the collections of our County Historical Society. This flag mounted on its original staff is of silk-linen, measuring four feet and six inches square. On one side it bears the Arms of the State emblazoned in colors, on the other, also in colors, is the figure of a Trooper on horse-back carrying a drawn saber. This valuable relic of our County was probably carried throughout the entire period of the existence of the Horse Artillery, and through the short period of its successor, The Washington Continentals, whose Captain, Reuben Groot took the flag with him on his removal to Springfield, South Dakota, from which place it has been recently returned to our County by his daughter, Mrs. McCrea Brann. The frontispiece of this paper was copied from the Flag as painted by Marcella (VanderVeer) Marvin.

On the occurrence of Gala and Independence Days in Old Schenectady, the Horse Artillery, leaving their Armory at the Brooks House on the Mohawk Turnpike would join the Parade in the City, which they may have headed. An old resident of our area, Benjamin Springer Wemple told of such a parade he witnessed in which The Horse Artillery made such a fine appearance - a shout from the onlookers would arise, "Here comes the Soldiers from Glenville!" The Captain and his Bugler riding side by side headed the column followed by the 50 or 60 Troopers, clad in red coats and high hats. To the bridle of the horses, brightly colored plumes were affixed, some of

which are still preserved. In reference to the Red Coats and High-Hats spoken of by Mr. Wemple, we must remember that our Horse Artillery at other periods had different uniforms.

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"THE WASHINGTON CONTINENTALS"

In the 1850s, evidently about the year 1855, The Horse Artillery either were disbanded or had their name changed to "The Washington Continentals." The meager records extant do not show which of these suppositions is correct. However, a new organization was formed of which Reuben Groot, recently returned from a stirring career as an officer in the AMERICAN GUARD in Central America as related in this paper, was made Captain. This new organization at its formation automatically became a unit of the Militia of the State, receiving designation as the "Glenville Washington Continentals" in the Regiment then under the command of Col. S. Yates.

A Muster Roll of this new organization, in the handwriting of Captain Groot, fortunately has been preserved and will here be given in full.

Muster Roll of The Washington Continentals.

Captain,		R. Groot
1st Lieutenant		L. Mead
2nd	"	J.P.Vedder
Ensign		Franklin A. Young
Orderly Sergeant		C. H. Buzzell
2nd "	"	H. Van Buren
3rd "	"	Henry Mead
4th "	"	S. Van Epps

PRIVATES

Wm. Vedder	H. Bell
Peter Mead	Julius Waterstreet
Benj. Van Buren	Jas. Thompson
Michael Smith	Wm. H. Peak
Wm. Rector	Freily Wample
Norton Vedder	John H. Van Wormer
Rausem Tallmadge	Cornelius Van Buren

No records have been found showing the length of existence of the Washington Continentals but probably the organization was disbanded some little time before the breaking-out of the Civil War. Several of the privates of the Continentals enlisted in the various New York Regiments taking part in the Civil War; others, however, became members of the 83rd Regiment of the Home Guard Militia of our State, a Regiment organized in the 1860s. Neither is it known just where the Armory and Headquarters of the Continentals was located but it is thought to have been in the Village of Glenville possibly in the same building which later became the Headquarters and Armory of Co. G. 83rd Regiment.

The Muster Roll of the Company shown above bears notes, written at a later period by Captain Groot, giving interesting and valuable data regarding the service and deaths of some seven one-time members of his Company of Continentals. For its historical value to the residents of our town, these notes of Captain Groot will be given in full:

First Lieutenant,	L. Mead, Killed at Gettysburgh, July 3, 1863
Second "	J.P. Vedder Killed at Bull Run.
Peter Mead,	Died in Hospital at Acquire Creek
Wm. Rector	Killed at Petersburg
Norton Vedder	Wounded at Gettysburgh, Died at home, Oct. 1863.
Rausem Tallmadge,	Killed Cold Harbor.
H. Bell	Killed, Gettysburgh, July 2nd, 1862
Freily Wample	Wounded at Gettysburgh, died in hospital, July 7th, 1863.
John H. Van Wormer	Killed at Battle of the Wilderness.

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