

## American Union Lodge in Morristown – Dec 1779

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In the possession of American Union Lodge No.1, in the Masonic Temple in Marietta, is an unbound typewritten document of 148 pages, on the paper cover of which is typewritten the "Minutes, of American Union Lodge and Military Union Lodge, from February 13, 1776 to March 10, 1779, and including April 23, 1783, also Copies of By-Laws as Adopted."

**Proceedings, by Freemasons.** New Jersey. Grand Lodge, 1900. pages 187-207

<http://books.google.com/books?id=DmQtAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA197&lpg=PA197&dq=%22Jonathan+G.+graham%22+%22Revolutionary+war%22&source=bl&ots=la17xVESJl&sig=FLVHa03rzGzn73-uHNP0A72o0Lw&hl=en&sa=X&ei=UH99UPSGA8rr0gHaz4H4DQ&ved=0CD0Q6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=%22Jonathan%20G.%20graham%22%20%22Revolutionary%20war%22&f=false>

### Appendix A

NOTE.—The following memoranda referring to the Masonic Convention at Morristown, NJ, during the Revolutionary War, at which Brother George Washington was personally present, is a transcript of the rough notes which were found among the manuscripts left by the late Edmund D. Halsey, Esq., of Morristown. Mr. Halsey did not live to complete his account of the Convention, but it is thought that the notes following are well worthy of preservation in the archives of New Jersey Masonry.

One of the most interesting events which took place in Morristown during the war for independence was the meeting of the Military Union Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to celebrate the feast of St. John the Evangelist, in December, 1779, in the old Arnold Tavern. The presence of Washington, the patriotic character of the resolutions adopted, and the number of distinguished officers who took part, made it peculiarly noteworthy. It was probably the first meeting of the Order in the town, and we can imagine with what curiosity the gathering at the inn, and the stately procession from thence across the public square to the old church, was witnessed by the people, and what an assemblage of citizens and soldiers filled the sacred building to hear the "polite discourse" of Doctor Baldwin. No newspaper was then printed in the county from which a report of the proceedings can be gathered, and the letters which have been preserved of that period are silent on this subject.

The revival of interest in matters of this period has brought to light many of the circumstances attending this meeting, including its minutes which were found in the records of the Brotherhood in Connecticut and which for many years were supposed to have been lost.

In February, 1776, Richard Gridley, Deputy Grand Master of St. Johns' Grand Lodge, in Massachusetts, granted a warrant to "**American Union Lodge**," whose members belonged to the Connecticut troops and were then engaged in the military service of the Colonies about Boston. After the evacuation of Boston, and when the army had moved to the vicinity of New York, a confirmation of this charter was applied for from the Masonic authorities of New York. This was denied, but a new warrant was authorized under the name of "**Military Union Lodge, No. 1.**" This latter name was distasteful to the members, and they never used it when it could be avoided, but continued to call themselves by their original and more patriotic title.

The Lodge kept up its meetings when the army was not on the march, and members were received from time to time from regiments of different states. In December, 1778, General Washington was present at the celebration of St. John's Day in Philadelphia, leading the procession to Christ Church, where a Masonic sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. William Smith, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The name of Washington became a Masonic toast and first in order at Masonic festivals.

The Continental Army arrived in Morristown about the first of December, 1779, and proceeded to build their huts on the Kemble and Wick Farms, between that town and Baskingridge. Washington took up his residence at the Ford Mansion, and the officers of his staff were quartered in various houses about the village. Almost immediately, on the fifteenth, the Masonic brethren came together and held a meeting at "Colonel Gray's quarters" to elect officers and to prepare for the coming festival of St. John, the evangelist. The Minutes of this meeting, as of that which followed, are found in the "History of Free and Accepted Masons in New York," by Charles T. McClenachan, Historian of the Grand Lodge, a work from which I am kindly permitted to make extracts at pleasure. The original minutes are in possession of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. Captain-Lieutenant Jonathan Heart, of the Third Connecticut Regiment, was chosen Worshipful Master; Lieutenant and Paymaster Richard Sill, of the Eighth Regiment, Senior Warden; Captain Robert Warner, of Colonel Wyllis Regiment, Junior Warden; Captain William Richards, of Starr's Regiment, Treasurer; Surgeon John R. Watrous, of Wyllis Regiment, Secretary; Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Grosvenor, Senior Deacon; Captain Henry Champion, of the First Connecticut, Junior Deacon; Privates Joseph Lorain and Thomas Binns, of Captain Pond's Company, Sixth Connecticut Regiment, Tylers.

Worshipful Master Jonathan Heart was appointed "a committee from the different lines in the army at Morristown to take into consideration some matters respecting the good of Masonry" (probably to arrange for the coming festival). In preparation for this, Captain Thomas Kinney and Major Jeremiah Bruen, of Morristown, went to Newark and borrowed from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, which had been established there in 1761, the necessary paraphernalia. In an old minute-book of this Lodge, under date of December 24th, 1779, is found the following receipt for this property:

"An acct. of sundrie articles taken out of the Lodge Chest of Newark St. John's Lodge, No. 1, by consent of Bro. John Robinson, Bro. Lewis Ogden, Brother Moses Ogden and lent unto Brother Thomas Kinney and Bro. Jerry Brewin to carry as far as Morristown, said Brothers Kinney and Brewin promising on the word of Brothers to return the same articles as p's Inventory below unto our Bro John Robinson, present Secretary when called-for witness our hands Brothers as below—

"24 Aprons, besides one that was bound and fring'd which Bro. Kinney claims as his own.

"2 Ebony Trunchions tipt with silver, the other they are to get if to be found.

"3 Large Candlesticks.

"3 Large Candlemolds

"1 Silk Pedestal Cloth Bound with Silver Lace.

"1 Damask Cutchion.

"1 Silver Key with a blue Ribbon stripped with black.

"1 " Levell " " "

"1 " Square " " "

"1 " Plumb " " "

" Newark, Dec'r 24, 1779

" (Signed) Thomas Kinney  
"Jerh. Bruen."

**Thomas Kinney**, who was so active in preparing for this meeting, was one of the most prominent men of Morris county He was the owner of land lying on the south side of the Morristown Green and extending to beyond what is now MacCullough avenue, and was sheriff of the county from 1773 to 1776. In partnership with Jacob Arnold, he built the Slitting Mill at Speedwell, and attempted there a new industry. When the Revolutionary War broke out he was the owner and keeper of the Arnold tavern, which then had attached to it a large farm running back to the Jocky Hollow road and to Speedwell avenue. He at once organized and equipped a company of light horse with which he escorted the disloyal Governor Franklin to Connecticut and placed him there in the custody of the loyal Governor Trumbull, for which service he was rewarded by the Legislature. A year or two after he turned over to his partner, Jacob Arnold, both the tavern and the command of the troop, and probably devoted himself more exclusively to the iron business. The interest of Arnold in the Speedwell works was sold after the war by the coronor (Arnold being at the time sheriff) to Rev. Timothy Johnes, from whom it passed to Stephen Vail. Kinney. more fortunate than his partner, held on to his interest until his death, when it passed to James C. Canfield. Thomas Kinney died April 3d, 1793, aged 62 years, leaving a widow, Elizabeth Kinney, and three sons, Jabez, John and Abraham. From the latter, Wm. B. Kinney. of Newark, for so many years the proprietor and editor of the "Newark Daily Advertiser," was descended.

NOTE.—Hough's Origin of Masonry in New Jersey, page xiii, of which the historical part was written by Past Grand Master William Silas Whitehead, to whom the author is indebted for much of the material of this article.

**Jeremiah Bruen** was the son of Timothy Bruen and Phebe Canfield, his wife, and was born in 1746. He was commissioned captain in the regiment of artificers commanded by **Col. Jeduthan Baldwin**, of Massachusetts March 2d, 1777, and as major of the same regiment November 12th, 1779. After the war he resided for a time in Morristown, and in 1789 he is named as a witness in a trial in the Morris County Court with Rainsford Rogers, of Morristown ghost notoriety. He removed about this time to Newark where he spent the remainder of his life.

July 3d. 1787, on application to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, a warrant was issued to Moses Ogden, Master, James H. Maxwell, Senior Warden, and Jeremiah Bruen, Junior Warden, for a Lodge to be held in Newark, to be distinguished by the name of St. John's Lodge, No. 2. In the records of the Grand Lodge, 1789 and 1791, the name of Jeremiah Bruen appears as Senior Warden representing his Lodge. He was an active member of the Cincinnati Society, and his certificate is still in the possession of his family. His camp chest is in the possession of the Washington Association of New Jersey, and may be seen at their headquarters.

He died January 12th, 1809, and it was truthfully said of him that he was a true and active patriot throughout the Revolutionary War, and his character was that of a good citizen, a tender husband and an affectionate father. His wife was Miss Jemima Baldwin, of Newark, and he left one son and two daughters. The oldest daughter married Mr. John M. Trumbull, of Connecticut, and the other Mr. S L. Ward, of Belleville.

The meeting for which these preparations were made was held in the Arnold (formerly Kinney's) Tavern, on the north side of the Green, which had been Washington's headquarters in the winter of 1777, after the battle of Princeton. It was one of the principal hotels in the place, and was frequented by all the army officers. The "dancing assembly," for which \$13 600 in Continental scrip was raised, was held here. The Marquis de Chastelleux, in his delightful memoirs, describing his travels in New Jersey in 1780, says:

" I intended stopping at Morristown only to bait my horses, for it was but half-past two, but on entering the inn of Mr. Arnold I saw a dining room adorned with looking-glasses and handsome mahogany furniture, and a table spread for twelve persons. I learnt that all this preparation was for me, and what affected me more nearly was to see a dinner, corresponding with these appearances, ready to serve up. I was indebted for this to the goodness of General Washington and the precautions of Colonel Moyland, who had sent before to acquaint them of my arrival. It would have been very ungracious to have accepted this dinner at the expense of Mr. Arnold, who is an honest man and a good Whig, and who has not a particle in common with BENEDICT ARNOLD; it would have been still more awkward to have paid for the banquet without eating it. I, therefore, instantly determined to dine and sleep in this comfortable inn."

In 1788 Benjamin Freeman was licensed to keep this hotel, and he became the proprietor of it in 1791. In 1808 he conveyed it to William Chetwood and Isaac Williamson, two gentlemen of Elizabeth, who held a mortgage upon it. In 1811 it passed into the possession of Lewis Hayden, who continued its proprietor until 1834, when James Wood and Col. Joseph Cutler became the owners. From 1855 to 1863 it was kept by Captain William Duncan, so that successive generations have known it as the Arnold, Freeman, Hayden and Duncan-house. In 1886 it was removed to the Colles property, and the material used in the construction of the present "All Souls Hospital," and the present "Arnold Flats" occupy its former place.

It is described in 1834 as of two parts. "The front part 43 feet along the street and 25 feet deep and three stories high, and the back part sixty-three feet long. nineteen feet wide " The front room in the second story was Washington's room in 1777, and in the rear extension, over the kitchen, was a long room in which the Assembly balls took place, and there the Army held their Lodge.

At this time the general court martial for the trial of General Arnold was holding its sessions at the Dickerson Tavern, corner of Water and Spring streets kept, while its owner was in the service, by Robert Norris, The entry in its minutes, December 27th, shows that the court met only to adjourn, for six of its members and the Judge Advocate were of the Masonic fraternity and had more agreeable business on hand that day.

In Mr. McClenachan's book is a full account of this meeting. The minutes read:

"MORRISTOWN. December 27th. 1779

"An Entered Apprentices' Lodge was held this day, for the celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist.

"Officers present--Brothers Jonathan Heart, Worshipful Master; Richard Sill, Senior Warden; Robert Warner, Junior Warden; William Richards, Treasurer; John R. Watrous, Secretary; Thomas Grosvenor, Senior Deacon; Brother Little, Junior Deacon, and Lorain and Binns, Tylers.

"Members present—Brothers Stillwell, Higgins, Worthington, Curtis, Barker, Gray, Sherman, Craig, Wilson, Bush, Judd, Heath, S. Richards, S. Wyllys, Parsons, Huntington, Smith, Judson, Clark, Hosmer, I. Wyllys, Fitch, Pierce, Sargeant, Graham, Fitch, Whiting."

These officers and members were men distinguished by their patriotic services. Worshipful Master **Captain Jonathan Heart**, of Farmington, Connecticut, was one of the first to respond to the call to arms in his native State. He was born in Kensington, Connecticut, in 1748; graduated at Yale in 1768, and for the next five years resided in New Jersey, where he accumulated considerable property. He had returned to Connecticut, and was engaged in a successful mercantile business when the war broke out, but he left and enlisted as a private in Putnam's battalion, with which he marched to Bunker Hill. In the earliest record of the Lodge, February 13th, 1776, while the Army was encamped on the Roxbury Hills, he is named as Secretary. When the Connecticut line was formed he joined the First Regiment, soon after became Ensign, and in 1777 a lieutenant. July 1st, 1779, he was made Captain-Lieutenant, and May 1st, 1780, Captain. When Lafayette's corps of light infantry was formed his company was one of those taken, and marched with that General to Virginia. Heart shared the honors of the Light Troops at Yorktown. After the war he found that his business was destroyed and his home broken up. He was commissioned Captain in the First American Regiment, Colonel Josiah Harmer, and October 25th, 1785, set out, with Major John Doughty, for the mouth of the Muskingum, where they built Fort Harmer. Four years later he again served with Major Doughty in building Fort Washington. He was in the campaign of General Harmer to the Indian towns on the Maumee, in 1790, and participated in the events of the 19th and 20th of October at the forks of the river, now Fort Wayne. In 1799 he was commissioned Major of the Second Regiment, then authorized by Congress.

He commanded the regulars in St. Clair's ill-fated expedition, and on November 4th, 1791, after the rout of the troops, he was ordered, with his command, to cover the retreat of the main body of the army. In this desperate attempt he fell and was left on the ground. It was nearly a month afterwards when Ensign, afterwards General, William Henry Harrison, in charge of a detachment, reached this battlefield, and gave the brave men who fell a decent burial.

The Senior Warden, **Lieutenant Richard Sill**, of the 8th Conn. Battalion, had been admitted to the Lodge in March previous. He was born in Lyme, Conn., 18th July, 1755, graduated at Yale College in 1775, and entered the Continental Army the next year as Lieutenant. He was on Long Island at the time of the battle, and with the Army at Kings Bridge, on the Hudson and at Valley Forge. He was in the Quartermaster or Paymaster's department, and in 1782 was appointed aid-de-camp to Lord Stirling, with the rank of Major. After the war he studied law with Aaron Burr and began the practice of same in Albany. He was elected representative to the General Assembly of New York, but his health soon after failed, and he died June 4th, 1790, at the house of his father-in-law, Colonel Francis Nicoll. The Albany Gazette, noticing his death, says: "Independent of the services of this gentleman in the army of the United States during the late war, his good sense, affable manners, and amiable disposition, added to the strictest integrity in public as well as private life, render his character in the highest degree respectable and his death a public misfortune as well as a most distressing loss to an amiable, disconsolate wife and two lovely infants."

**Captain Robert Warner**, the Junior Warden, had served in the hastily formed levies from Weathersfield at the Lexington alarm, and served continuously afterwards to the close of the war; at first as Ensign in Spencer's regiment in 1776, then as First Lieutenant and Captain in Colonel Samuel Wyllys' regiment, and from May 29th, 1782, as Major, Colonel John Durkee's (First) regiment. He had been admitted to the Lodge as an apprentice, May 24th, 1779, and was made Master Mason March 31st, 1779. He resided at Middletown and was a member of the Connecticut Society of Cincinnati.

**Capt. William Richards**, of New London, was named as Treasurer almost continuously until 1783, when he became Senior Warden. He acted as Quartermaster in the Lexington Alarm Campaign, and in 1776 as Capt. in Col. Parson's Regiment. In the new arrangement of 1777 to 1781, he was Captain in the 1st Regt., commanded at this time by Col. Starr. In Caulkin's History of New London, it is stated that Captain Richards was engaged in the successful expedition from Fairfield, to capture Fort Slongo, on Long Island, and that he led the attack upon the Battery, and that Col. William Richards was chosen first city sheriff and annually chosen to the same office till his death in 1812, making twenty eight years. His name appears, however, in the pension list in 1820.

The Secretary, **John Richards Watrous**, was from Colchester. He was commissioned as Surgeon, Third Regiment (Col. Wyllys'), June 1st, 1777, and continued in the reorganization of 1781. He was one of the original members of his State Society of the Cincinnati, and his service is stated to have been from May, 1775. He had been admitted to the Lodge and made a Master Mason at the same time as Captain Warner. In the pension list of 1840 his name appears, and his age is given as eighty-six.

The Senior Deacon was **Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Grosvenor**, of Pomfret. He was commissioned Major January 1st, 1777, and Lieutenant-Colonel March 13th, 1778, of the Third Regiment. He held the staff appointment of Inspector of the Connecticut Division from July, 1779, until promoted to command of the First Regiment, May 29th, 1782. He was a member of the Cincinnati, and was in service from May, 1775, to January, 1783. He had been admitted to the Lodge February 17th. He was still living in 1840.

**William Little, Jr.**, of Lebanon, Conn., the Junior Deacon, had been admitted to the Lodge at the same time as Major Sill, the 10th of March previous, and had attained the degree of Master Mason, April 7th. In May or June, 1777, he had been appointed one of the issuing commissaries for the Conn. brigade.

**Captain Henry Champion**, who had at the former meeting acted as Junior Deacon, had been admitted to the Lodge on the 17th of February previous. He was son of Col. Henry Champion, and was born at Colchester in 1751. He was father-in-law of Gov. Joseph Trumbull, of Connecticut, and grandfather of Henry C. Deming, of Hartford.

Nearly all the members of the Lodge present were from the Connecticut line. This State had a division of two brigades at Morristown. The First Brigade consisted of the First Regiment, Col. Starr; the Third Regiment, Col. Wyllys; the Fifth Regiment, Col. Bradley, and the Seventh Regiment, Col. Swift. The Second Brigade consisted of the Second Regiment, Col. Butler; the Fourth Regiment, Col. Durkee; the Sixth Regiment, Col. Meigs; and the Eighth Regiment, Col. Sherman. An additional regiment, commanded by Col. Samuel B. Webb, was afterwards added to this Brigade.

**Maj. Gen. Samuel H. Parsons**, commanding the Connecticut Division, had been an original member of the Lodge and always active in its work. He had been made a General early in the war, had commanded the troops stationed in the Highlands in 1778-9, and in July of 1779 had commanded in the attack upon Norwalk. Thomas Jones, the New York loyalist, in his history of New York, says "he was esteemed by the rebels as a bold, resolute, enterprising soldier, and by British prisoners as a man of the most humane, generous and benevolent disposition, by whom they were always treated with politeness, civility and humanity." He adds: "I saw him in Hartford, in 1780; he had long hair, which hung about his ears, a brown homespun coat, buckskin breeches, a red laced waistcoat, blue yarn stockings, a pair of shoes I fancy were made by himself, and an amazing long, silver-hilted sword." He resigned on account of his health, April 22d, 1782, and his resignation was accepted July 22d following. He was a resident of Middletown when he entered the service, in 1775. After the war he was appointed a Territorial Judge. He was drowned in the Ohio river, November 17th, 1789.

**Lieutenant Jabez Parsons**, of the 2d Conn., was made a Fellow Craft, Aug. 20th, 1779, and Master Mason, July 29th, 1780, but it is probable that it was the General and not the Lieutenant who was the member present.

**Col. Samuel Wyllys** was also one of the original members of the Lodge. He was born in Hartford, 15th January, 1739, and graduated at Yale 1758. When the war broke out, he took, from the first, a most prominent part, commanding a regiment at the siege of Boston, and was one of those who equipped Captain Mott's company, which assisted in the capture of Fort Ticonderoga. In January, 1776, he was commissioned as Colonel in the Connecticut line, and served as such during the remainder of the war. He was a member of the Cincinnati, and, in the records of that Society, he is said to have served from April, 1775, to January 1st, 1783. After the war he held several civil office, and in 1796 succeeded his father as Secretary of State. When he resigned this office, in 1809, on account of ill-health, his grandfather, his father and himself had held the position continuously for ninety-eight years. He died at Hartford, June 9th, 1823. The Charter Oak stood on "Wyllys' Hill," where the Hon. Samuel Wyllys had his home when the tree was put to such good use.

Of his regiment was **Quartermaster William Higgins**, from Lyme. He was commissioned July 23d, 1777, and served to the end of the war. He had been made a Master on May 7th previous.

Also **Lieutenant and Paymaster Samuel Richards**, from Farmington. He had been appointed Regimental Clothier, April 5th, 1779. He was in the service from May, 1775, to January, 1781, and was one of the original members of his State Society of the Cincinnati. He was still living in 1840.

Also **Captain William Judd**, of Farmington. He was in service from Oct. 16th, 1776, to January 1st, 1781. He and Lieutenant Richards were made Master Masons the 5th day of May previous.

Also **Captain Elias Stillwell**, from New Haven. who was in the service from July 15th, 1775. He was commissioned Capt.-Lieut. Jan. 1st, 1777, and Captain July 1st, 1779. He was made a Master Mason on the 21st day Of April previous, and after the war was a member of the Cincinnati.

Also **Lieut. David Judson**, of Woodbury, of the 8th Conn., who had been made a Master Mason May 5th previous. He was promoted Captain in the 4th Regiment November 29th, 1781, and for a time served as Quarter Master of the Second Conn. Brigade.

Also **Lieutenant Peleg Heath and Prentice Hosmer**, of Hartford, who were admitted to the Lodge in August previous. Heath was commissioned 1st Lieut. Jan. 1st, 1777, and was retired Jan. 1st, 1781. Hosmer was commissioned 2d Lieut. April 25th, 1778, but continued in service to 1782. Both were members of the Cincinnati.

There was also a **Dr. Timothy Hosmer**, of Farmington, Surgeon of the 6th Regiment, who was a member of the Lodge.

**Asa Worthington**, of Colchester, served as a "clerk" in the Lexington Alarm Campaign, and as Sergeant in the 8th Company of Spencer's Regiment from May 11th to Dec. 17th, 1775. He had been admitted Aug. 28th, 1779, as an Entered Apprentice, and was then said to be "of the Connecticut line." He was made Master Mason the following March.

**Lt.-Col. Ebenezer Gray** was at this time in command of Col. Meig's (6th) Regt. He was commissioned Major Jan. 1st. 1777, and had been promoted Lt.-Col. Oct. 15th, 1778. He had been admitted to the Lodge May 7th, 1779.

Of his command came **Lieut. Giles Curtis**, who went from Wallingford upon the Lexington Alarm and was commissioned as Lieutenant Jan. 1st, 1777. He served throughout the war and belonged to the Cincinnati. He had been admitted to the Lodge Aug. 20. In the pension list of 1840 it is stated he was living, at the age of 85, at Berlin, Conn.

**Lieutenant John Sherman**, of New Haven, Regimental Clothier of the 4th Regiment, was admitted to the Lodge at the same time as Lieut. Curtis, and may have been the "Sherman" present, but more probably it was Lt.-Col. Isaac Sherman, commanding the 8th Regiment, who had been admitted to the Lodge Feb'y 15th, 1779. The latter was active in the Lodge and was a member of the Cincinnati, where he is recorded as from New Haven, and as having served from April, 1775, to Jan, 1783.

With Col. Sherman came the Major of his Regiment, **David Smith**, of Waterbury, who had been admitted Oct. 11th, 1779. He had been promoted from Capt. March 13, 1778, and was promoted to Brigade Major in 1781.

**Lieut.-Col. Ebenezer Huntington**, who commanded Col. Samuel B. Webb's (9th) Regiment from October, 1778, to January, 1781, was one of the original members of the Lodge. He was born in Norwich, Conn., 26th of December, 1754, and at the time of the battle of Lexington he was a Senior in Yale College, but he left his studies and marched from New Haven as a volunteer, April 21st and 22d, to Boston. He was rapidly promoted and continued in the war until its close. In 1781 he was detached and served in Scammel's Light Infantry, and was present, commanding a battalion, at the siege of Yorktown. He was an original member of the Cincinnati; was named by Washington as Brig. General, in 1799, when war was threatened with France, and served his State in Congress in 1810-11, and again in 1817-19. He died in Norwich, 17th June, 1834, but his name is on the pension roll for 1840.

**Capt. John Palsgrave Wyllys**, of Hartford, of this same Regiment, had served as Brigade Major in Gen. Wadsworth's brigade of State troops, in 1776, and was taken prisoner Sept. 15th, 1776, and not exchanged until Feb., 1777. He was promoted Major in the 3d Regiment, Oct. 10, 1780, and as such commanded the detachment of Connecticut troops which went to make up Lafayette's Light Division. In this corps he was present at the assault at Yorktown, Oct. 14, 1781. He was a member of the Conn. Society of Cincinnati.

**Lieutenant and Adjutant Samuel Augustus Barker**, of Branford, had been admitted to the Lodge in Aug., 1779, and was made a Master Mason on the 27th of the following March. He had been commissioned Jan. 1st, 1777. He was promoted Captain, May 10th, 1780, and the same year signs his name as Assistant Adj. Gen. of the Connecticut Division.

**Jabez Clark**, who had been a Master Mason of the Lodge since May 5th, 1779, was then a State Commissary. He had served as an Ensign, in 1777, in Col. Ely's State Regiment. In 1832 his name appears as a pensioner from Wyndham County.

**Capt. Andrew Fitch**, of Lebanon, served as "clerk" in the Lexington Alarm levies; was 1st Lieutenant in Col. Ward's Regt., in 1776, and January 1st, 1777, was commissioned as Captain in Col. Durkee's (4th) Regiment. He was retired in the reorganization of 1781. He had been made a Master of the Lodge, May 7th, 1779. .

The other Fitch, who is named as a member present, was **probably John Fitch**, who was appointed from Canterbury, in May or June, 1777, as one of the State Commissaries.

**Dr. Jonathan G. Graham**, promoted Surgeon of the 7th Conn., March 23d, '79, from Surgeon's Mate of the 2d, had been admitted Aug. 20th, 1779.

**Timothy Whiting**, who was made a Master Mason Sept. 7th, 1779, was, in July of that year, Quarter Master of the Garrison at Fort Arnold.

The remaining five members present were from Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. **Captain Samuel Craig and Capt William Wilson** of the 1st Pa., and **Lieutenant John Bush** of the 6th Pa., were made Master Masons in Sept., 1779. On 13th of Jan, 1792, Captain Wilson was appointed assistant Judge of Northampton County, which office he held until his death, which occurred at Chillisquaque, Pa., in 1813. **Deputy Paymaster General John Pierce** of the Mass. Line, admitted Sept. 16th, 1779, afterwards represented the line of his state in the February meeting spoken of hereafter. "Sargent" was probably **Winthrop Sargent**, a Captain in Crane's Artillery, who rendered distinguished services during the War, and held many prominent positions in the South and West in after years. There is no record, however, of when, if ever, he was admitted to the Lodge.

Next in the minutes are the names of the sixty-eight visiting brethren. First of all comes Washington, and with him was Major Caleb Gibbs, of Rhode Island, the Commander of his life guard, until succeeded by his Lieutenant, William Colfax, of New Jersey. He was wounded in the foot in the assault on the enemy's redoubt at Yorktown. He was dispatched in May, 1780, by Washington to meet Lafayette, who had just arrived in Boston, to escort him to the Head Quarters, at Morristown, where Washington writes "a bed is prepared for him." In a letter to the Secretary of War, dated 25th March, 1799, Washington writes of Major Gibbs: "He served through the whole Revolutionary War, from the assembly of the first troops at Cambridge to the closing of the Military drama at the conclusion of peace without reproach, and in the last act of it, if I mistake not, was a Major of the selected corps of Light Infantry."

Of Washington's staff is Col. Alexander Hamilton, the brilliant West Indian, of whom it is said "the American Republic never had a truer friend nor abler supporter."

Robert Erskine, the geographer and surveyor-general of the Army, whom the War found managing the iron works of the London Company, at Ringwood and its vicinity, but who equipped a company at his own expense and brought it into the field, for which he was "highly approved" by the Provincial Congress.

Gen. John Lawrence at that time was Judge Advocate of the Arnold Court Martial.

Of General Officers and Regimental Commanders there was **Gen. Mordecai Gist and Gen. Otho Williams** of Maryland, who were afterwards prominent in the Lodge.

Gen. William Maxwell commanded the New Jersey Brigade. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and came to America very early in life. He entered the colonial service in 1758 and served continuously until the Revolution, when he was made Colonel of the 2d Battalion, and with this he served in the Canadian Campaign of 1776. Congress appointed him a Brigadier General Oct. 23d, 1776. He commanded the N. J. Brigade at Brandywine, Germantown, upon Sullivan's expedition, and at Springfield. After the latter battle he resigned his commission, and his resignation was accepted 25th June, 1780. Washington said of him, "I believe him to be an honest man, a warm friend of his Country, and firmly attached to its interests." He died 12th Nov., 1798, at Landsdown, at the home of his friend, Col. Charles Stewart, while on a visit to him. He is buried at Greenwich, Warren County.

**General Elias Dayton**, at this time Colonel of the Third Regiment, after the resignation of Gen'l Maxwell, commanded the Jersey Brigade. He had served in the French War in Canada, and was very prominent throughout the Revolution. In 1779 he was elected to

Congress, but declined. He served as delegate in the convention of 1787. He died October 22d, 1807. January 30th, 1787, a dispensation was granted to him from Elizabethtown by the Grand Master. .

**Gen Anthony Walton White**, who, in October, 1775, was commissioned a Major and Aid-de-camp to Washington, February 9th, 1776, Lieut.-Col. 3d N. J. Battalion, and on 13th February, 1777, a Lt.-Col. of Light Dragoons. On 16th February, 1780, he was commissioned Colonel and ordered to take command of all the cavalry in the Southern Army. Upon his own personal credit he equipped two regiments to operate against Cornwallis. January 6th, 1794, a petition was presented to the Grand Lodge of N. J. from Masons in New Brunswick praying that a warrant might be issued to him as Master, and to others as Wardens, to hold a Lodge to be called "Washington Lodge, No. 12," which was agreed to. He died February 10th, 1803, in the 53d year of his age.

Col. Henry Jackson had recruited the 16th Massachusetts, and afterwards the 9th or Boston Regiment, with which the 16th was consolidated. He commanded the last body of Continental troops in the service at the close of the war, in July, 1784. He was Treasurer of the Massachusetts Society of Cincinnati from 1783 until his death, which occurred January 4th. 1809.

Col. John Brooks was born in Massachusetts in 1752. He marched toward Concord on the eventful 19th of April, 1775, with a company of minute men to meet the British on their retreat. He was made Colonel in 1778, and was Lieut. Adjutant-General at Monmouth. After the war he was very highly honored by his State, was a member of the State convention to ratify the Federal Constitution in 1788 and Governor of the State 1816 to 1823. He was the first Secretary of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati and its President from 1810 until his death, March 1st, 1825. '

Col Richard Butler commanded the 9th Regiment, which belonged to Gen. Irvine's Brigade. After the surrender of Cornwallis he was assigned to duty with Gen. Wayne in Georgia, and September 8th. 1783, he was promoted Brigadier-General. In 1791 he was second in command with the rank of Maj. Gen. in St. Clair's expedition, and in the battle of November 4th he lost his life.

Lieut.-Col. Morgan Conner was commanding the 7th Pa., the Regiment of Col. William Irwin, who was promoted to command of the Brigade. In 1777 his name appears on the General Staff.

**Col. Henry Sherburne**, a member of St. John's Lodge, of Newport, Rhode Island, was a member of Arnold's Court Martial. His regiment suffered in April following a surprise from a party of British, who crossed from Staten Island, attacked Parasmus, where they were quartered, and set fire to a house in which they had taken refuge. Fifty-two prisoners were captured, including several officers. Col. Sherburne died in 1830.

With Col. Sherburne came four other Rhode Island officers - **Captain Thomas Hughes, Lieutenant John Hubbard ("Hubbard")** and **Ensign Jeremiah Greenman ("Grunman")**, all of Angell's Regiment, and then, or subsequently, members of St. John's Lodge, of Newport. Captain Hughes was admitted in March, 1779, and "Greenman" was admitted April 9th, 1798, but had previously received the degrees elsewhere. In Angell's Regiment was also Lt. Benjamin L. Peckham. It is quite probable that the visitor, "Durfee," was also from Rhode Island, where the name very frequently occurs, but the rosters of the Rhode Island officers present in Morristown, which are far from complete, do not give us the name.

There were many Morristown men present. Besides Col. Thomas Kinney, Col. Jacob Arnold and Major Jeremiah Bruen, there was **Jabel Campfield**, Surgeon of Spencer's Regiment, whose house, corner of Olyphant's Lane and Morris street, is still standing. He was Surrogate of Morris County for many years after the war, and an active member of Lodge No. 10, of Baskingridge. He died 20th May, 1821, aged 84. His diary, while accompanying Sullivan's expedition, is in possession of the New Jersey Historical Society.

**John Armstrong** was also a member of Lodge No. 10, and lived near Mendham.

**Lieut. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer**, Paymaster of the 3d N. Y. Regiment line of 1776, afterwards promoted to Lt. 2d Co., Col. Van Schaick's Regiment, had been Warden of **Masters Lodge No. 2**, of Albany, in March, 1768. In 1784 his name appears in a petition to have the name of that Lodge changed to **Evangelist Lodge No. 2**.

**Dr. Nicholas Schuyler**, Surgeon of Hazen's Canadian (N. Y.) Regiment, was son of Harmanus Schuyler, and a cousin of the General.

**Lieut. Samuel Lewis**, of the 4th Company, 3d N. Y., was a member of Union Lodge, No. 1, as was also **1st Lieut. Gilbert R. Livingston**, of the same company and regiment. **Philip Connine** was a Lieutenant in the regiment, and promoted Capt. Lieutenant in January, 1780.

**Capt. Leonard Bleecker**, Capt. 8th Co., 3d Regt. New York, and Brigade Major under Lafayette, was a member of Union Lodge, No. 1. His order book in the campaign of 1779, against the Indians has been preserved and printed. He was an officer at various times in over twenty different societies and institutions, tending to the amelioration of distress and the promotion of religion and morality among mankind. He died March 9th, 1844, at Newton, Long Island, "having filled a long and useful life with honor."

**Lieut. and Paymaster John Stagg**, of Malcolm's N. Y. Regiment is named as Major Stagg in the subscription to the Assembly Ball, held later in the winter. **John Stagg, Junior**, signs as **Senior Warden of Holland Lodge, N. Y.**, on certificate of honorary membership sent to Washington, March 7th, 1789. It is no doubt the same person, as Maj. Stagg did not die until Dec. 28th, 1803.

**Adjutant Peter Ellsworth** was of the 4th N. Y.; made Captain Lieut. April 16th, 1780. He had accompanied Clinton's expedition against the Indians during the previous summer and served from the beginning of the war and until "deranged" or mustered in 1781. The same may be said of **Lieut. Thomas Hunt**, of this same regiment, another visitor who had been promoted 1st Lieut. on the 9th of November previous. **Lieut. Francis Hamner** of the 5th New York, afterwards Quartermaster, was a member of Union Lodge.

The Artillery arm of the service was strongly represented-

"**Colonel Thomas Procter**, of the Penn. Line, had been promoted from Major February 6th. 1777. October 27th, 1775, he applied for a commission as Captain of Artillery to garrison Fort Island. He raised the company, and then received authority to increase it to a regiment. With his Artillery Regiment, he accompanied Clinton's expedition against the Indians in 1779, and at the Battle of

Chemung the victory would have been with the Indians and their white allies, but for him and his guns. He was at one time Master of St. John's Military Lodge, connected with that expedition."

In Andre's poem, "The Cow Chase," he is satirized as follows:

"Sons of distant Delaware,  
And still remoter Shannon,  
And Major Lee with horses ran,  
And Procter with his cannon."

He was born in Ireland in 1739, and died in Philadelphia, March 16th, 1806.

**Capt. Thomas Machin**, of the 2d New York Artillery, was born in Staffordshire, England, March 20th, 1744. He had been sent to New Jersey in 1772 to examine a copper mine, then lately discovered. He was one of the party who threw the tea overboard in Boston harbor; was wounded at Bunker Hill and at Fort Montgomery, and, with Col. Proctor, accompanied Gen. Clinton to the Genesee Country in 1779. He rendered very valuable service at Yorktown. As an engineer, he was employed in placing the chain across the Hudson in the Highlands, and after the war he engaged in coining money for the States before the adoption of the Federal Constitution. He was a member of the New York Society of Cincinnati, and died at Charlestown, N. Y., April 3d, 1816.

**Captain James Maclure** was at this time serving with Lamb's Artillery as Capt. Lieutenant. In April, 1781, he was made Captain in the Pennsylvania Artillery.

**Captain Lieutenant John Waldron** ("Walden" in the minutes), of Lamb's Artillery, was in service until April 8th, 1782.

**Lieut. Isaac Guion**, commissioned Feb. 1st, 1777, was made Capt. Lieut. in place of Machin, promoted August 21st, 1780. He died Sept. 12th, 1823.

**Capt. Elisha Harvey** ("Hervey" in the minutes) had been a sergeant in Capt. Drury's Company of Knox's Artillery, in May, 1776. He distinguished himself, at the battle of Brooklyn Heights, by standing to his guns after the other members of the Company had retreated, and by a skillful and daring maneuver prevented the British from getting possession of them. He was promoted from 2d Lieut. 6th Co. to 1st Lieut. Lamb's Artillery, 28th June, 1778; Captain Lieut. in 1780, and Captain in 1781. He was from Taunton, Mass., and died there, February 11th, 1821. The name of his widow, Anna Harvey, is on the pension list from Massachusetts, in 1840. At Washington Headquarters, in Morristown, is an order from him, dated Artillery Park, Morristown, Jan. 29th, 1780, on the Board of War, at Boston, for two suits of clothing, granted by the General Assembly of the Bay States, to its officers, in the years 1778 and 1779. The Mass. Society of the Cincinnati marked his grave, July 4th, 1887.

**Peter Woodward** joined the New York Artillery Regiment, in 1777, as 2d Lieut.. and was promoted to Captain Lieutenant March 23d, 1781.

**Capt. Lieut. Thomas Thompson** had been a sergeant in Col. Hamilton's Artillery Company. August 12th, 1776, Hamilton writes to the Convention of New York: I would beg the liberty warmly to recommend to your attention Thomas Thompson, now first Sergeant of my Company, a man highly deserving of notice and preferment. He has discharged his duties in his present station with uncommon fidelity, assiduity and expertness. He is a very good disciplinarian, possesses the advantage of having seen a good deal of service in Germany, has a tolerable share of common sense, and is well calculated not to disgrace the rank of an officer and gentleman." Sergeant Thompson was accordingly made a Lieutenant. He died before the end of the War, in June, 1780.

Of the military Lodges instituted in the Revolutionary army, it is said the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania chartered seven. One of them was granted September 2d, 1782, to "certain brethren of the New Jersey Line, in the Federal Army, for a military Lodge, to be known as No. 36," and the **Rev. Andrew Hunter**, a visitor on this occasion, was duly recommended for Master. Chaplain Hunter was the son of Rev. Andrew Hunter, of Cumberland Co., and was one of the party who, the 22d of November, 1774, destroyed the tea landed at Greenwich by the British ship "Greyhound." He was appointed Chaplain of the New Jersey Brigade June 15th, 1777. After the war he became a Chaplain in the Navy, and died at Washington, in February, 1823.

Besides Chaplain Hunter, from the Jersey line, came **Capt. John Sanford** of "Spencer's Regiment," who, at the convention afterwards held, represented the Jersey Line. **Capt. Daniel Piatt** of the 1st Regiment, was promoted Major January 4th, 1778, and died of disease at camp, near Morristown, April 16th, 1780.

As might be expected, the Pennsylvanians were largely represented. We have the name of **Capt. Isaac Craig** (at one time Master of St. John's Regimental Lodge), who was afterwards (Oct. 7th, 1781,) promoted Major of Procter's Artillery Regiment. He was Deputy Quartermaster General of the Army in 1795, and military agent at Pittsburg in 1800, where he died June 14th, 1826.

**Major Thomas Church** of the 4th Regiment, resigned January 1st, 1781, and died near Coventryville, Chester Co., Pa., in 1813.

**Capt. Lieut. Thomas Campbell**, of the same Regiment, was promoted Captain Jan. 1, 1781, and died in March, 1815.

**Captain John Savidge** ("Savage") was commissioned Ensign of the 5th Pa., January 8th, 1776, was taken prisoner at Fort Washington Nov. 16th, 1776, and was commissioned Capt. Lieut. Feb. 15th, 1777, in the 6th Regiment. He became Supernumerary with rank of Captain, Sept. 7th, 1778. He died in Philadelphia, April 20th, 1825.

**Capt. Nathaniel Van Sant** was of the same Regiment, was commissioned January 5th, 1776, and was captured at Fort Washington and exchanged November, 1778. He died in Bensalem township, Bucks Co., Pa.

**Surgeon Charles McCarter**, of the 4th Pa., had been commissioned January 1st, 1779. He left the service in August, 1780.

**1st Lieutenant Peter Summers** ("Somers") and **Wilder Bevins** belonged to the same Regiment—the 4th. The former, who was from Philadelphia, had been promoted from 2d Lieut., June 2d, 1778, and resigned April 1st, 1781. The latter had been commissioned May 11th, 1779. He died August 3d, 1809.

**Lt. Col. Francis Mentges** ("Mentzer"), of the 5th (Col. Johnston's) Regiment, had been promoted from Major of the 11th Regiment Oct. 9th, 1778, and continued to serve until Jan. 1st, 1783.

**Chaplain William Rogers** of the Rifle Regiment had been commissioned April 6th, 1776. He was the last surviving Chaplain of the Revolution. He was born in 1750 and died April 7th, 1824. In the Providence (R. I.) Journal is an interesting obituary of him in which his Masonic relations are alluded to. He delivered an address before the brethren at one time.

**Edward Spear** was commissioned as 2d Lieutenant in the 7th Pa., Feb. 7th, 1778. He was promoted to 1st Lieut. May 16th, 1781, and transferred to the 1st Pa. His name appears as Entered Apprentice, Sept. 16th, 1779, in the minutes of the Lodge. After the War he entered the regular Army and was appointed 2d Lieut., 1st Batt. Artillery, 10th Sept., 1787. In July 1791, he was promoted Adjutant, and was killed 4th Nov., 1791, at the battle of Miami, **where so many of the Masonic brethren lost their lives.**

There were one or two Connecticut officers present who were not yet members of the Lodge.

Surgeon **Noah Coleman**, of Lebanon, had been in the Quebec expedition. He was commissioned May 1st, 1777, as Surgeon of the 2d Conn., and served in it until retired in 1781. On the 31st January following this meeting he was admitted to the Lodge, and July 20th, 1780, he was its Junior Deacon.

Dr. Abraham Baldwin was the speaker of the occasion.

**Capt. Henry Ten Eyck**, of Schenectady, N. Y., was in the service in the Connecticut Line from Jan. 1, 1777, was promoted Captain May 13, 1778, of Col. Isaac Sherman's (2d) Regt., and was detailed from that to serve with Meyer's Light Infantry. In the organization of 1781-83 he served as Captain in the 4th Regt. He had been admitted to the Lodge as Entered Apprentice Aug. 28, 1779. He became a member of the Cincinnati at the close of the war.

**Capt. Joseph Fox**, of Woodstock, Conn., had been in service in the 9th Mass. Regiment. He was one of the original members of the State Society of the Cincinnati, and in its record his service is stated to have been from January, 1777, although his name appears in the roll of Col. Burrall's Conn. Regiment in 1776, when he was promoted to 2d Lieut. for Ensign Sept. 19, 1776.

**James Bruff** was 1st Lieut. in the 5th Maryland Regiment; promoted Oct. 7th, 1777, from 2d Lieut. in the 6th.

Two or three of the visitors are not to be identified positively. "Wetmore" was probably **Deputy Paymaster-General Hezekiah Wetmore**, of Conn.

"Reacum" was, possibly, **Capt. Wilhelmus Ryckman**. Ensign 5th Co. 1st Regt., of New York, or **John Meecom**, who was a member of St. John's Lodge, of Newport, Rhode Island.

"Shaw" might have been **Capt. Samuel Shaw** of the Massachusetts Line, an original member of the Cincinnati.

"Edwards" was, possibly, **Thomas Edwards**, of Col. H. Jackson's Mass. Regiment. In the history of the Mass. Society of the Cincinnati is a sketch of his life. He was born in Boston 1st Aug., 1753, graduated at Cambridge 1771, and died in Boston, where he had been practicing law since the war, August 4th, 1806. He was Secretary of the Mass. Cincinnati Society from 1786 till his death. He was present at Monmouth and Springfield battles.

After naming the visitors, the minutes proceed as follows:

"The Lodge was opened, and after the usual ceremonies had been performed, the brethren formed a procession in the following order:

- "1. Bro. Binns, to clear the way.
- "2. The Band of Music.
- "3. Brother Lorain, with a Drawn Sword.
- "4. The Deacons, with their Rods.
- "5. The Brethren, by Juniority.
- "6. The Passed Masters.
- "7. The Secretary and Treasurer.
- "8. The Wardens, with their Wands.
- "9. The Worshipful Master.

"The Brethren then proceeded to the Meeting-house, where a very 'polite' discourse, adapted to the occasion, was delivered by the Rev. Doct. Baldwin, of the Connecticut Line. After service, the Brethren returned by the same order to the Lodge room, where a collation was served, &c., &c., which being over, the following business was transacted.

"Voted unanimously, that the thanks of the Lodge be presented to the Rev. Dr. Baldwin, for the polite address delivered by him this day in public.

"Voted unanimously, that the Secretary wait on the Rev. Dr. Baldwin, with a copy of the minutes, and a request that he will favor the Lodge with a copy of the address, and permission to have it published.

"A petition was read, representing the present state of Freemasonry to the several Deputy Grand Masters in the United States of America, desiring them to adopt some measures for appointing a Grand Master over said States, of which the following is a copy :

"PETITION.

"To the Most Worshipful, the present Provincial Grand Masters in each of the respective United States of America:



"The petitioners, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in the several Lines of the Army of these United States, assembled on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, at Morristown, Dec. 27th, 1779, to you, as the patrons and safeguard of the Craft of America, beg leave to prefer their humble address.

"With sincere regret we contemplate the misfortunes of war, which have unhappily separated us from the Grand Lodge in Europe and deprived us from the benefits arising therefrom, so essentially necessary for the well-being of Masonry, and which has, in many instances, been subversive of the very institution of the Order. At the same time we lament that political disputes and national quarrels should influence the exercise of charity and benevolence, and their several virtues, so necessary for our present and future happiness. Yet, considering the present situation of our Lodges and Masonry in general, the necessity, for the honor of the Craft, and the importance of enjoying the benefits of so valuable an institution, that some exertions are made for checking the present irregularities, restoring peace and harmony to the Lodges, for opening a way to the enjoyment of the fruits of benevolence, charity and brotherly love, and for the re-establishment of the Order on the ancient respectable foundation; which we conceive can never be done more effectually than **by the appointment of a Grand Master in and over the United States of America.**

"We therefore most earnestly request that the present Provincial Grand Masters in the respective said United States would take some measures for the appointment of a Grand Master in and over the said Thirteen United States of America, either by nominating a person proper for that office, whose abilities and rank in life shall answer the importance of that conspicuous and elevated station, and transmitted such nomination to our Mother Lodge in Britain, that the appointment may be made, or in such other manner as shall to them appear most eligible. And we further beg leave to express our wishes that the several provincial Grand Masters in these States would, in the intermediate time, enter into unanimous and vigorous measures for checking the growing irregularities in the Society, cementing the different branches, erasing the distinction between Ancient and Modern in these States, that the Craft may be established in unanimity, the established principles of its institutions more universally extended, and that our conduct may not only be the admiration of men in this world, but receive the final applause of the Grand Architect of the Universe in the other, where there is nothing but light and love.'

"Voted, That the foregoing petition be circulated through the different Lines in the Army.

"Voted, That a committee be appointed from the different Lodges in the Army, from each Line, and from the Staff of the Army, to convene on the first Monday of February next, at Morristown, to take the foregoing petition into consideration.

"Voted, That when the dividend of the expense of this day shall be paid, each Brother will put into the hands of the Treasurer or Secretary what he shall see fit, for the use of the poor of this town.

"Voted, That the money so collected be transmitted to Bro. Kinney, to appropriate to the necessities, first of the widows and orphans of Masons, next to soldiers' wives and children in distressed circumstances; if any shall remain, he will apply it to those poor persons in this town whom he shall judge stand most in need thereof.

"Lodge closed till called together by the Master's order."

Dr. Abraham Baldwin, who delivered the "polite discourse," was Abraham Baldwin, who was born in Guilford, Conn., Nov. 6th, 1754, graduated at Yale in 1772 and was tutor there until after the beginning of the War. At the time of the meeting he was Brigade Chaplain in the Connecticut Line. After the war he removed to Savannah, Ga., where he was admitted to the bar. He drew up the Charter and secured the success of the University of Georgia, of which he was President for several years. He was a delegate to the Continental Congress from 1785 to 1788, and a member of the Constitutional Convention. As a member of this Convention he rendered, on one occasion, an inestimable service to his country, by dividing the vote of his State on the question of allowing equality of suffrage to the States in the Federal Senate, and preventing a decision which would, in all probability, have broken up the Convention. Professor Fiske, describing the scene, says: "His State was the last to vote, and the House was hushed in anxious expectation, when this brave and wise young man yielded his private conviction to what he saw to be the paramount necessity of keeping the Convention together. All honor to his memory." He was a member of Congress from 1789, and U. S. Senator from that time until his death, which occurred in Washington, March 4th, 1807.

The meeting-house in which this address was delivered was that of the First Presbyterian Congregation, a frame building erected at least twenty years before, and to which a steeple had been added in 1763. It stood back of and to the east of the present church, and was a plain, square building, covered, like the old Court House, with shingles. In March, 1796, after the erection of the present structure, it was ordered to be taken down at the expense of the congregation, but was, in fact, moved to the west of the church property, was turned into a distillery, and became one of the seventeen which Dr. Barnes alleged to have been in the bounds of his parish in his day.