



**David Library of the American Revolution  
Finding Aid on Prisoners of War**

**including the**

**Peter Force Collection: Prisoner-of-War Papers**  
(William Augustus Atlee Papers; Lancaster Committee of Safety  
Papers and Minutes Transcripts; Lists of Prisoners)

**Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection:**  
(Prisoner-of-War Papers from  
Thomas Bradford Papers and Elias Boudinot Papers)

**Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778**

**Horatio Gates Papers: Prisoner-of-War Returns**

*Prepared by David Swain, Volunteer Researcher, December 2016*

# Table of Contents

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Manuscript Sources—Prisoner-of-War Papers</b>   | 1   |
| • Peter Force Collection (Library of Congress)   | 1   |
| • Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection<br>(Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Library of Congress)                        | 2   |
| • Elias Boudinot Letterbook (State Historical Society<br>of Wisconsin)   | 3   |
| • Horatio Gates Papers (New York Historical Society)   | 4   |
| <b>General Index</b>   | 5   |
| <b>Introduction</b>  | 13  |
| • Overview   | 13  |
| • Untangling the Categories of Manuscripts from their<br>Interrelated Sources  | 15  |
| • People Involved in Prisoner-of-War Matters   | 18  |
| Key People   | 19  |
| Elias Boudinot   | 20  |
| Thomas Bradford  | 24  |
| William Augustus Atlee   | 28  |
| Friendships and Relationships  | 31  |
| • American Prisoner-of-War Network and System  | 32  |
| • Lancaster Committee of Safety Papers and Minutes   | 33  |
| • Prisoner-of-War Lists  | 34  |
| • References   | 37  |
| <b>Annotated Lists of Contents:</b>  | 41  |
| <b>Selected Prisoner-of-War Documents</b>  |     |
| • William Augustus Atlee Papers 1758-1791<br>(Peter Force Collection, Series 9, Library of Congress)                                     | 41  |
| • Lancaster Committee of safety Papers 1775-1777<br>(Peter Force Collection, Series 9, Library of Congress)                              | 97  |
| • Transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety Records<br>1774-1776 (Peter Force Collection, Series 7E, Item 68,<br>Library of Congress) | 136 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| • Lancaster Prisoner-of-War Lists 1776-1782<br>(Peter Force Collection, Series 9, Library of Congress)   | 151 |
| • British, Hessian, and Waldeck Prisoner-of-War Lists;<br>Provision Returns; Parole Security Statements and Forms;<br>Correspondence 1776-1783 (Historical Society of<br>Pennsylvania, Schwalm Collection) | 177 |
| • Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence 1777-1781<br>(Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Schwalm Collection)   | 190 |
| • Provision Returns for British Prisoners of War 1778-1782;<br>text of an exchange cartel 1781 (Historical Society of<br>Pennsylvania, Schwalm Collection)   | 227 |
| • Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War 1777-1782<br>(Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Schwalm Collection)  | 234 |
| • Parole Security Statements and Forms for British Prisoners<br>of War Captured at Sea 1778-1782<br>(Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Schwalm Collection)   | 260 |
| • Thomas Bradford Correspondence 1777-1783<br>(Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Schwalm Collection)   | 302 |
| • Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence 1776-1782<br>(Library of Congress, Schwalm Collection)  | 410 |
| • Elias Boudinot Letterbook of Outgoing Correspondence<br>1777-1778 (State Historical Society of Wisconsin)  | 436 |
| • Horatio Gates Papers—Prisoner-of-War Returns 1777-1780<br>(New York Historical Society)  | 465 |

# Manuscript Sources

## **Peter Force Collection: Prisoner-of-War Papers (William Augustus Atlee Papers, Lancaster Committee of Safety Papers and Minutes Transcripts, and Lists of Prisoners)**

The extensive and highly organized Peter Force Collection is held by the Library of Congress (LC). Peter Force (1790-1868) was a prominent American politician, newspaper editor, and architect. Beyond that, he was a historian and extraordinary collector and editor of historical manuscripts and other documents. His focus was on the documentation of American history. But within this focus, his range of interests was broad. His efforts to organize historical documents were cut short by his death, but what has been preserved in the Library of Congress is an eclectic and voluminous treasure trove.

The extant Peter Force Collection is contained in 10 “Series” of documents out of what he initially envisioned as 18 series. The David Library of the American Revolution (DLAR) owns 14 reels of microfilm—13 reels containing a large portion of **Series 9**, entitled “**Miscellaneous Manuscripts, 1501-1866**” and 1 reel containing all of **Series 7E**, entitled “**Miscellaneous Transcripts.**” The Miscellaneous Manuscripts include, scattered through them, many documents pertaining to prisoners of war, especially at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, including especially papers of William Augustus Atlee, papers of the Lancaster Committee of Safety, and Lists of Prisoners of War. Item 68 in the Miscellaneous Transcripts contains transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety meetings dated between June 15, 1774 and June 28, 1777. (Note that Series 8D Item 86 is also relevant to this Finding Aid, containing original minutes of Lancaster Committee meetings dated between June 15, 1774 and June 28, 1777. DLAR does not own this microfilmed reel, which is Reel 49 in the microfilmed LC Peter Force Collection). Series 9 of the Peter Force Collection includes 17 microfilm reels that LC has numbered Reels 96 through 112. Of these, DLAR owns microfilm copies of Reels 96 and 98 through 109, which it has catalogued as Reels 1 through 13 in Microfilm Set 664. Series 7E’s single reel, numbered Reel 16 by LC, is Reel 1 in DLAR’s Microfilm Set 559.

# **Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection: Prisoner-of-War Papers**

## **(Thomas Bradford Papers and Elias Boudinot Papers)**

The Johannes Schwalm Historical Association (JSHA) Collection at the DLAR includes 7 reels of microfilm with documents relating to the history of prisoners of war, both German and British, during the American Revolutionary War. In documents pertaining to exchanges, information is also found on American prisoners of war held by the British. The sources of the original manuscript documents include the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP) (6 reels) and the Library of Congress (1 reel).

The Johannes Schwalm Historical Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to researching the “German Auxiliary Troops” and the heritage of many of them who remained after the war as citizens of the U.S. Johannes Schwalm was a German soldier in William von Knyphausen’s Regiment, captured at Trenton.

(These soldiers have been collectively referred to by Americans as “Hessians.” This is inaccurate, since the German troops were serving in the armies of six different German principalities, only two of which were a part of Hesse. Therefore, in this Finding Aid, these soldiers are referred to collectively as “German” troops.)

In 2000, the JSHA purchased from the HSP three reels (DLAR Reels 4, 5, and 6) of selected microfilmed documents, most of which relate to prisoner-of-war matters. Separately, a JSHA staff member microfilmed small numbers of documents from HSP (DLAR Reels 1, 2, and 3). Twenty-six of the 63 documents microfilmed in Reels 1, 2, and 3 also are found in Reel 4, 5, or 6. In 2010, the JSHA “permanently loaned” all six of these reels to the DLAR for preservation and use. The DLAR has catalogued them as Microfilm Set 733. They contain Thomas Bradford papers and, Elias Boudinot papers, plus a variety of prisoner-of-war lists, provisions returns, and parole documents.

In addition, the JSHA permanently loaned a separate, single reel of additional Elias Boudinot papers held by the Library of Congress. The DLAR has catalogued this reel as Microfilm Set 732. See the note in this Finding Aid after document 144, the last document included from this reel, identifying additional documents of note on subjects not directly related to prisoners of war, which may, nevertheless, be of interest.

When the JSHA purchased reels of microfilmed documents from the HSP, neither of them documented in detail the sources of these documents within the HSP. A perusal of the *Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania* (1991), and a separate HSP document on the *Collection 1676, Bradford Family Papers 1620-1906* (2006) suggests possible duplicate recording of at least some of the Thomas Bradford Papers relating to prisoners of war.

The *Guidebook* lists, as Collection 71, Thomas Bradford papers relating to his service as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (and, after October 1780, Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners) at Philadelphia, including correspondence, lists, provision returns, and parole documents for both army and naval prisoners, all of which can be found in the JSHA microfilmed reels. Another entry in the *Guidebook*, identified as Collection 1676, includes Bradford Family papers from 1747 and 1847, without reference to papers relating specifically to Thomas Bradford or to prisoner-of-war matters. However, the more recent and more detailed HSP document on *Collection 1676* itemizes its contents more specifically to include in “Series III” Thomas Bradford papers of a) Naval Prisoners (1777-1783) and b) Army prisoners (1776-1881). This document’s more detailed content description of these two sub-collections references all the kinds of papers identified as being in Collection 71, except that “bonds of French and Hessian prisoners” mentioned here are not mentioned in the Collection 71 description and are not clearly identifiable in the JSHA microfilmed reels.

Whether or not HSP’s Collection 71 and Collection 1676 record the same papers in two collections cannot be accurately determined without perusal of the original documents. Researchers seeking a comprehensive understanding of all of Thomas Bradford’s prisoner-of-war papers will therefore need to look into both collections and not rely alone on the JSHA microfilmed reels housed at DLAR.

HSP’s Collection 1036 (Thomas Bradford records 1778-1782) might—or might not—be another source of some of the documents in the JSHA microfilmed reels. This collection includes letters of Bradford as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (and, after October 1780, Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners) “on the exchange and parole of prisoners of war; and records of provisions drawn for prisoners”

## **Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778**

In 1777-1778, Elias Boudinot kept a letterbook in which he wrote copies of outgoing correspondence while he was serving as Commissary General of Prisoners. The original letterbook is held by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Archives & Manuscripts, which microfilmed it in 1978, and from which the DLAR acquired its microfilm copy. The DLAR has catalogued this reel as Microfilm Set 567.

## Horatio Gates Papers: Prisoner-of-War Returns

Voluminous quantities of Horatio Gates Papers are held by the New York Historical Society (NYHS). In the late 1970s, many of these papers were microfilmed in a collection of 20 reels. The DLAR owns the entire collection, which it has catalogued as Microfilm Set 23, with the same reel numbers as the NYHS collection. The microfilmed collection is organized into three Series, the first of which contains Correspondence, the second Orderly Books and Returns, and the third Financial Papers. Prisoner-of-war returns are found in only Reels 18 and 19. Perusal of the guide to the microfilmed Gates Papers (see References in the Introduction) of the entries for the voluminous correspondence collection in Reels 2-13 reveals little about prisoners of war, however most of these entries are limited to “to and from” information. The returns included in this Finding Guide are readily found on the Reels 18 and 19 because each frame is numbered on the microfilm.

# General Index

**Note:** In this General Index and the Finding Aid entries that follow, the **reel numbers** in **bold** are assigned by the DLAR to each microfilm reel, as catalogued by the DLAR.

**Frame Numbers**, reported in [brackets], indicate separate microfilm images, in the order microfilmed, within each Reel. For the reels of the Peter Force Collection and the Boudinot Letterbook, the Finding Aid records frame numbers that appear at the bottom of each microfilmed frame. For the Schwalm Collection, whose microfilms contain no frame numbers, the DLAR volunteer researcher has manually calculated and assigned consecutive frame numbers within each reel, and has reported these numbers in the Finding Aid.

## Peter Force Collection: Prisoner-of-War Papers

### Series 7E (1 Reel; 1 Item)

**Note:** The Library of Congress (LC) has divided Series 7E's one reel (LC Reel 16 in the Peter Force Collection) into "**Items**," which are batches of paper documents stored in a single folder, which itself is generally microfilmed. Items are generally arranged alphabetically, with the documents within each arranged in approximate chronological order. The Transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety Minutes are only some of the "Miscellaneous Transcripts" found in Item 68. These transcripts are manuscript documents created more or less contemporaneously with the original documents.

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers for prisoner-of-war documents in Series 7E are assigned sequentially for only those documents identified for this Finding Aid. They can be found on the entire reel by searching for the Frame Number.

**Note:** See two notes after Item 68 document 79 on content of related interest in **Item 69** and **Item 70** respectively (found on this same DLAR reel).

**Item 68** (LC Reel 16, Items 60 (continued) to 70)

#### **Transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety Minutes and Related Papers**

June 12, 1774 to June 28, 1776

Documents 2-79

[Frames 559-649]



## **Series 9 (3 Manuscript Sets, 36 Volumes; 13 Reels)**

**Note:** Series 9 contains large numbers of “miscellaneous manuscripts” dated from 1501 to 1866, only some of which relate to the three important aspects of Revolutionary War prisoner-of-war history identified here, which include The Papers of William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster during most of the Revolutionary War (Atlee Papers); Papers of the Lancaster Committee of Safety (Committee Papers); and Lists of Prisoners of War (Lists of Prisoners).

**Note:** The Library of Congress (LC) has divided Series 9 into “**Volumes**,” which contain batches of paper documents, without microfilmed folders. Most Volumes are arranged in approximate chronological order, as are the papers within each Volume. The Volumes in the DLAR’s 13 microfilmed Series 9 reels are numbered from 9/1 through 9/36.

**Note:** The entire Series 9 is microfilmed on LC Reels 96 through 112. Series 8D Item 86 is also relevant to the content of this Finding Aid (containing original minutes of Lancaster Committee meetings), however, DLAR does not own this microfilmed reel (Reel 49 in the LC microfilmed Peter Force Collection).

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** for prisoner-of-war documents in each DLAR reel of Series 9 are assigned sequentially for only those documents identified for this Finding Aid within each set of selected documents: **Atlee Papers**, **Committee Papers**, and **Lists of Prisoners**. Individual documents can be found on a reel by searching for the Frame Number.

### **Reel 1** (LC Reel 96)

No Atlee Papers, Committee Papers, or Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

### **Reel 2** (LC Reel 98 [LC Reel 97 not included in DLAR microfilm set])

No Atlee Papers, Committee Papers, or Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

### **Reel 3** (LC Reel 99)

Atlee Papers (3 documents) are found in Volume 9/8; no Committee Papers or Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/8** January 30, 1758 to December 29, 1759

[Frames 1-354]

**Volume 9/9** January 7, 1760 to December 6, 1763

[Frames 355-639]

**Reel 4 (LC Reel 100)**

Atlee Papers (4 documents) are found in Volume 9/11; Committee Papers (3 documents) are found in Volume 9/12 (begin); no Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/10** March 1, 1764 to December 13, 1769 [Frames 1-533]

**Volume 9/11** January 19, 1770 to April 28, 1775 [Frames 534-628]

**Volume 9/12** (begin) May 1, 1775 to June 11, 1775 [Frames 629-825]

**Reel 5 (LC Reel 101)**

No Atlee Papers are found in this volume; Committee Papers (42 documents) are found in Volumes 9/12 (end), 9/13, and 9/14; no Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/12** (end) June 12, 1775 to June 30, 1775 [Frames 1-92]

**Volume 9/13** July 5, 1775 to October 31, 1775 [Frames 93-406]

**Volume 9/14** November 1, 1775 to December 31, 1775 [Frames 407-653]

**Reel 6 (LC Reel 102)**

Atlee Papers (20 documents) are found in Volumes 9/16 and 9/17; Committee Papers (92 documents) are found in Volumes 9/15, 9/16, and 9/17; Prisoner Lists (5 documents) are found in Volume 9/15, 9/16, and 9/17.

**Volume 9/15** January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776 [Frames 1-247]

**Volume 9/16** June 7, 1776 to July 30, 1776 [Frames 248-510]

**Volume 9/17** August 1, 1776 to October 28, 1776 [Frames 511-821]

**Reel 7 (LC Reel 103)**

Atlee Papers (42 documents), Committee Papers (77 documents), and Prisoner Lists (13 documents) are found in Volumes 9/18, 9/19, and 9/20.

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 [Frames 1-276]

**Volume 9/19** January 1, 1777 to March 31, 1777 [Frames 277-529]

**Volume 9/20** April 1, 1777 to June 28, 1777 [Frames 530-770]

**Reel 8 (LC Reel 104)**

Atlee Papers (71 documents) and Prisoner Lists (47 documents) are found in Volumes 9/21, 9/22, 9/23, and 9/24 (begin); Committee Papers (3 documents) are found in Volumes 9/21 and 9/22.

**Volume 9/21** July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777 [Frames 1-203]

**Volume 9/22** October 1, 1777 to December 24, 1777 [Frames 204-477]

**Volume 9/23** January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778 [Frames 478-678]

**Volume 9/24** (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 [Frames 679-866]

**Reel 9 (LC Reel 105)**

Atlee Papers (34 documents) and Prisoner Lists (14 documents) are found in Volumes 9/24 (end), 9/25, 9/26, and 9/27 (begin); no Committee Papers are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/24** (end) June 10, 1778 to June 30, 1778 [Frames 1-49]

**Volume 9/25** July 7, 1778 to December 12, 1778 [Frames 50-341]

**Volume 9/26** January 6, 1779 to October 25, 1779 [Frames 342-661]

**Volume 9/27** (begin) November 4, 1779 to January 12, 1780 [Frames 662-803]

**Reel 10 (LC Reel 106)**

Atlee Papers (55 documents) and Prisoner Lists (26 documents) are found in Volumes 9/27 (end), 9/28, 9/29, and 9/30 (begin); no Committee Papers are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/27** (end) January 17, 1780 to June 26, 1780 [Frames 1-160]

**Volume 9/28** July 1, 1780 to December 31, 1780 [Frames 161-458]

**Volume 9/29** January 5, 1781 to June 30, 1781 [Frames 459-707]

**Volume 9/30** (begin) July 1, 1781 to August 20, 1781 [Frames 708-788]

**Reel 11 (LC Reel 107)**

Atlee Papers (28 documents) are found in Volumes 9/30 (end), 9/31, and 9/32 (begin); Prisoner Lists (23 documents) are found in Volumes 9/30 (end) and 9/31; no Committee Papers are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/30** (end) August 26, 1781 to December 31, 1781 [Frames 1-158]

**Volume 9/31** January 1, 1782 to December 20, 1782 [Frames 160-531]

**Volume 9/32** (begin) January 1, 1783 to December 26, 1783 [Frames 532-721]

**Reel 12 (LC Reel 108)**

Atlee Papers (17 documents) are found in Volumes 9/32 (end), 9/33, and 9/34 (begin); no Committee Papers or Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/32** (end) January 14, 1784 to December 1784 [Frames 1-88]

**Volume 9/33** January 4, 1785 to December 1787 [Frames 89-473]

**Volume 9/34** (begin) January 16, 1788 to March 10, 1790 [Frames 474-702]

**Reel 13 (LC Reel 109 [LC Reels 110, 111, and 112 not included in DLAR microfilm set])**

Atlee Papers (4 documents) are found in Volumes 9/34 (end) and 9/35; no Committee Papers or Prisoner Lists are found in this Reel.

**Volume 9/34** (end) April 17, 1790 to November 11, 1791 [Frames 1-67]

**Volume 9/35** April 17, 1792 to July 16, 1804 [Frames 68-352]

**Volume 9/36** (begin) March 27, 1805 to June 2, 1819 [Frames 353-699]

# Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection: Prisoner-of-War Papers

## Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscripts (6 Reels)

### Reel 1

#### **Lists of Hessian, including Waldeck, and British Prisoners of War**

None is dated; contents relate to December 1776 to July 1778

Documents 1-12

[Frames 1-42]

**Note:** Among these 12 documents, microfilmed separately for the JSHA, none is found in the more voluminous Reels 4 through 6. Their source is the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP) Collection 875.

### Reel 2

#### **Lists of Hessian and British Prisoners of War, Provision Returns, Parole Security Statements and Forms, and Correspondence about Prisoners of War** (negative microfilm)

January 19, 1780 to April 17, 1783

Documents 1-45

[Frames 1-86]

**Note:** Among these 45 documents, microfilmed separately for the JSHA, 20 are also found in the more voluminous Reels 4 through 6. Their source is HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676.

### Reel 3

#### **Lists of Hessian and British Prisoners of War** (negative microfilm)

October 10, 1779 to December 14, 1779

Documents 1-6

[Frames 1-14]

**Note:** All six of these documents, microfilmed separately for the JSHA, are also found in the more voluminous Reels 4 through 6. Their source is HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676.

### Reel 4

#### **John Hinrichs Diary**

January 18, 1778 to May 22, 1780

[Frames 2-50]

(Source: HSP Collection 288)

[Listed here for reference only. John Hinrichs did not become a prisoner-of-war.

Therefore, the annotated contents of his diary are not included in this Finding Aid.]

### **Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence and Other Documents Pertaining to Prisoners of War**

July 17, 1777 to June 6, 1781                      Documents 17 to 217                      [Frames 66-373]

(Source: Elias Boudinot Papers, (HSP Collection 68)

Only documents in this correspondence pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid. For information on documents of interest not pertaining to prisoners of war, see the note after document 217 on this reel. The entire collection on this Reel is summarized below:

June 22, 1716 to April 19, 1782                      Documents 3-240                      [Frames 53-408]

### **Provision Returns for British Soldier Prisoners of War**

October 27, 1778 to August 8, 1782 Document 241 (a list of returns) [Frames 409-448]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

Document 241 contains 176 returns listed by date plus references to additional provision returns in Reel 5.

### **Copy of Articles of a Cartel**

May 3, 1781                      Document 242                      [Frames 449-534]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

### **Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War (begin)**

January 11, 1777 to September 23, 1778                      Documents 243-254                      [Frames 535-550]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

## **Reel 5**

### **Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War (end)**

September 27, 1778 to August 5, 1782                      Documents 1-162                      [Frames 1-262]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

### **Parole Security Statements & Forms for British Prisoners of War Captured at Sea**

April 10, 1778 to July 22, 1782                      Documents 163-529                      [Frames 263-482]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

### **Thomas Bradford Correspondence Concerning British Army Prisoners of War at Philadelphia (begin)**

June 17, 1777 to August 23, 1779                      Documents 530-772                      [Frames 484-830]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, HSP Collection 71, and/or 1676, and possibly 1036)

## **Reel 6**

### **Thomas Bradford Correspondence Concerning British Army Prisoners of War at Philadelphia (end)**

August 2, 1779 to June 6, 1783                      Documents 1-523                      [Frames 1-615]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers, (HSP) Collection 71, and/or 1676, and possibly 1036)

## **Library of Congress Manuscripts (1 Reel)**

### **Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence and Other Documents Pertaining to Prisoners of War**

#### Container 1

January 30, 1776 to April 30, 1778                      Documents 5-121                      [Frames 21-413]

#### Container 2

May 11, 1778 to March 14, 1782                      Documents 123-144                      [Frames 418-487]

(Source: Elias Boudinot Papers, (Library of Congress Manuscript Shelf 22,346)

Only documents on this reel pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid. For information on documents of interest not pertaining to prisoners of war, see the note after document 144 on this reel. The entire collection on this Reel is summarized below:

#### Container 1

March 20, 1773 to April 30, 1778                      Documents 1-121                      [Frames 6-413]

#### Container 2

May 11, 1778 to February 15, 1812                      Documents 122-190                      [Frames 414-659]

## **Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778**

### **Elias Boudinot Outgoing Correspondence Letterbook (1 Reel)**

April 17, 1777 to March 28, 1778                      Documents 3 to 160                      [Frames 3-96]  
(Source: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Archives & Manuscripts)

## Horatio Gates Papers: Prisoner-of-War Returns

Note: On these two reels, only selected return documents pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid.

### **Reel 18**

Sept. 19, 1777 to Nov. 18, 1778      Documents 1 to 25      [Scattered Frames 877-1312]  
(Source: New York Historical Society)

### **Reel 19**

Dec. 3, 1778 to Nov. 11, 1780      Documents 1 to 6      [Scattered Frames 1-471]  
(Source: New York Historical Society)

# Introduction to the Finding Aid

## Overview

This Finding Aid contains an annotated table of contents for several interrelated collections of microfilmed manuscripts, whose contents all pertain to various aspects of the history of prisoners of war during the American Revolutionary War. The sources of these collections are all American. Yet combined, the documents contain information about British, German, and American prisoners of war, as well as both American and British perspectives on prisoner-of-war matters.

**[Note:** The “**German**” **prisoners of war** were soldiers whose regiments came from several principalities in politically fragmented Germany. Their military involvement alongside British Army regiments against the American rebels reflects German political alliances with Britain at the time. Although frequently referred to as “mercenaries” and as “Hessians,” neither term is very accurate.

Most of the soldiers were paid troops assigned to regular army units; few had enlisted individually for the purpose of making a living as a “soldier of fortune.” Although a large number of the German soldiers fighting with the British served in the armies of Hessen-Cassel and Hessen-Hanau, many more were troops from other German principalities, including Waldeck, Braunschweig, Anhalt-Zerbst, and Ansbach-Beyreuth. The identified principalities were clustered in a sizeable area of interior, central Germany, most of them in what are now the States of Hesse, Lower Saxony, and Saxony-Anhalt. For geographic accuracy, these prisoners of war are identified in this Finding Aid as “German.” However, in the summaries of documents in the Finding Aid, such soldiers are identified as they are in each document.]

The documents include mostly correspondence but also minutes and other papers of the Lancaster, Pennsylvania Committee of Safety (including both original and transcript minutes), as well as lists/returns of prisoners (often by name), aggregated provision returns, and individual parole documents and letters. The lists, returns, and parole documents contain valuable genealogical as well as historical information about both individual prisoners of war and aggregated numbers of prisoners.

Much of the correspondence is among American and British officials responsible for prisoner-of-war matters during the Revolutionary War. These matters included acquiring, constructing, and managing prisons and camps, guarding prisoners, provisioning the prisoners, responding to prisoner requests and complaints, moving prisoners, and arranging paroles and exchanges. For good reason, these officials were called Commissaries, because much of their effort was devoted to acquiring and paying for provisions, clothing, and firewood to keep prisoners alive and healthy. Prisoners who got sick or were wounded had to be cared for in hospitals attached to the prison camps.



Besides communications among Commissaries (both American and British), the correspondence includes communications between American Commissaries and their private suppliers of provisions and supplies, British and American military commanders and officers, the American War Office and Continental Congress, prisoners of war (British and German) with requests or complaints, and private Americans inquiring about their prisoner-of-war relatives or friends.

In general, the Commissaries appear from the correspondence to have shared humanitarian motivations. They cared about the conditions of the prisoners they held captive. This does not mean that they actually provided healthy and comfortable conditions, along with quick parole and exchange. But they did work hard toward providing such conditions. They became frustrated when their efforts fell short because provisions and supplies could not be obtained or could not be delivered in sufficient quantities in a timely manner, or they had insufficient funds to pay for them, or their efforts toward granting paroles and negotiating exchanges got delayed or denied by military considerations or mutual suspicion between enemies.

In general, the correspondence suggests that the Commissaries on each side had negative opinions about the prisoner care and conditions offered by the other side. They felt certain that the care and conditions they provided were better than those provided by their enemy counterparts, and they tended to believe that their humanitarian motives were stronger than those on the other side.

A bias inherent in the prisoner-of-war systems of both the British and the Americans is both revealed and reflected in the correspondence. Prisoner-of-war care and conditions reflected the class and rank of the prisoners. Officers as a group and higher-ranked individual prisoners of war were treated quite differently—and better—than “rank and file” soldiers and seamen. Depending on what they had with them when captured, officers were generally allowed to keep with them their “baggage” (including even some furniture), a personal servant or servants (some of whom were Negro), and a wife and children. Officers were also given better housing than the prison, barracks, or tent accommodations provided for ordinary soldiers and seamen, and, unless they were a particular security risk, they often also enjoyed greater local freedom of movement. Officers also tended to have money or access to money, which they could use to support a lifestyle more commensurate with their rank and class. And officers received more and more timely consideration and assistance toward being paroled and exchanged.

This whole system of preferential treatment for officers reflects the realities of late 18<sup>th</sup>-Century class society in Britain and its former American colonies. The officer prisoners of war, plus the Commissaries, military leaders, and political leaders responsible for their incarceration and care, were all “gentlemen.” As honorable gentlemen (all male of course), they communicated with and mutually supported each other as social equals, regardless of their differing situations (prisoner or captor).

This bias both enriches and impoverishes the information that can be gleaned from the correspondence included in this Finding Aid. A good deal of information, both generalized and particular to named individuals, is available about officers and high-ranking prisoners of war. Information about the conditions and lives of the far greater numbers of ordinary prisoner-of-war soldiers and seamen must be inferred from generalizations.

An interesting partial exception to the class-based bias of incarceration practice is found in correspondence about the prisoner-of-war operations at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Following the battles of Trenton and Princeton in the winter of 1776-1777, Lancaster became the prisoner-of-war home for a large number of German soldiers. At Lancaster, German prisoners were surveyed by occupation (looking especially for skilled craftsmen but also experienced farm laborers). Some of these were then assigned to be released to work for private inhabitants in the area. Many did day work, returning to their prison at night, but some lived and worked on farms, with the farmers taking responsibility for their German workers' security.

There was logic in this arrangement. Many local inhabitants were German immigrants and thus could communicate with German-speaking prisoners of war in their native language. Putting prisoners of war to work helped pay for the prisoners' care, while also accomplishing productive work that supported the American cause. Nevertheless, many American leaders were skeptical, especially about maintaining necessary security, and the correspondence does not reveal extensive replications of this experiment elsewhere.

Still, another version of this concept is found in the operation of the large prisoner-of-war urban prison operation at Philadelphia. The correspondence documents instances in which American "gentlemen" requested that the Commissary approve the release of certain "workers" for various purposes. Examples include military leaders who sought laborers to help complete fortification construction as well as private individuals seeking personal servants, craftsman assistants, or apprentices. The Commissary at Philadelphia seems to have found it proper, or at least expedient, to fulfill some of these requests.

## **Untangling the Categories of Manuscripts from their Interrelated Sources**

The documents included in this Finding Aid are presented in order by manuscript source, by microfilm reel, and by individual document. Each document entry is identified with a document number created by the DLAR volunteer researcher. Numbers run consecutively within each microfilm reel. Each document entry also includes a microfilm frame number for the first page of each document.

Most of the sources represented here have microfilmed their documents with a frame number shown on the microfilm. The microfilmed Schwalm Collection documents show no such frame numbers. For this source, the DLAR volunteer researcher has manually calculated and included in each document entry a frame number. These numbers run consecutively but appear for only the first page of each microfilmed document.

As indicated above, a large number of the documents included in this Finding Aid come from papers of three individuals, Elias Boudinot, Thomas Bradford, and William Atlee,. Because of the nature of their correspondence, documents written by one of these three often were sent to another of the three, or to one of the other key people identified above. This means that documents pertaining to any of the key people are found in various reels of various manuscript sources. In addition, numerous documents are included that are not correspondence but a variety of returns, lists, and other documents. The list below reorganizes the content of the documents into their major categories of manuscript—correspondence of the three key individuals and the various lists and other documents, identifying each category with its documents' sources.

#### **Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence and Related Documents**

(238 documents 1716-1782) (178 documents 1777-1781 pertaining to prisoners of war)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection

(Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 68)

DLAR Reel 4; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

Only correspondence pertaining to prisoners of war is included in this Finding Aid. See note after document 217 on this Reel for information on documents of interest not pertaining to prisoners of war.

#### **Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence and Related Documents**

(190 documents 1773-1812) (124 documents 1776-1782 pertaining to prisoners of war)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection

(Library of Congress Manuscript Collection 156)

DLAR Reel 1; DLAR Microfilm Set 732

Only documents pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid.

See note after document 144 on this Reel for information on documents of interest not pertaining to prisoners of war.

#### **Elias Boudinot Outgoing Correspondence Letterbook** (158 documents 1777-1778)

(State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Archives & Manuscripts)

DLAR Reel 1; DLAR Microfilm Set 567

#### **Thomas Bradford Correspondence Concerning British Army Prisoners of War at Philadelphia** (765 documents 1777-1783)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection

(Thomas Bradford Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 71, and/or 1676, and possibly 1036)

DLAR Reel 5, 6; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**William Augustus Atlee Correspondence and Related Documents**

(278 documents 1759-1792)

Peter Force Collection ([Library of Congress](#)) Series 9  
LC Reels 99-109 (except 101); DLAR Reels 3-13 (except 5)  
DLAR Microfilm Set 664

**Lancaster Committee of Safety Papers** (217 documents 1775-1777)

Peter Force Collection ([Library of Congress](#)) Series 9  
LC Reels 100-104; DLAR Reels 4-8  
DLAR Microfilm Set 664

**Transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety Minutes** (79 documents 1774-1776)

Peter Force Collection ([Library of Congress](#)) Series 7E  
LC Reel 16, Item 68; DLAR Reel 1  
DLAR Microfilm Set 559

**Lists of British and Hessian Prisoners of War** (128 documents 1776-1782)

Peter Force Collection ([Library of Congress](#)) Series 9  
LC Reels 102-107; DLAR Reels 6-11  
DLAR Microfilm Set 664

**Lists of Hessian, Waldeck, and British Prisoners of War** (12 documents 1776-1778)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection  
([Historical Society of Pennsylvania](#) Manuscript Collection 875)  
DLAR Reel 1; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**Lists of Hessian and British Prisoners of War, Provision Returns, Parole Security Statements and Forms, and Correspondence about Prisoners of War** (45 documents 1780-1783)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection  
([Historical Society of Pennsylvania](#) Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676)  
DLAR Reel 2; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**Lists of Hessian and British Prisoners of War** (6 documents 1779)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection  
([Historical Society of Pennsylvania](#) Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676)  
DLAR Reel 3; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War** (174 documents 1777-1782)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection  
(Thomas Bradford Papers, [Historical Society of Pennsylvania](#) Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 676)  
DLAR Reel 4, 5; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**Provision Returns for British Soldier Prisoners of War**

(176 returns listed by date only as a single document 1778-1782)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection

(Thomas Bradford Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676)

DLAR Reel 4; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

Some additional provision returns are found in DLAR Reels 9 and 11 of the Atlee Papers and Prisoner-of-War Lists in the Peter Force Collection, Series 9.

**Parole Security Statements & Forms for British Prisoners of War Captured at Sea**

(367 documents 1778-1782)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection

(Thomas Bradford Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676)

DLAR Reel 5; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**Copy of Articles of a Cartel** (1 document 1781)

Johannes Schwalm Historical Association Collection

(Thomas Bradford Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676)

DLAR Reel 4; DLAR Microfilm Set 733

**Prisoner-of-War lists (especially of Convention Troops)** (31 documents 1777-1780)

(Horatio Gates Papers, New York Historical Society)

DLAR Reels 18, 19; DLAR Microfilm Set 23

## People Involved in Prisoner-of-War Matters

The correspondence, lists, and other documents included in this Finding Aid teem with the names, thoughts, and actions of a great many people. Some worked in the American and British systems for managing prisoners of war. Many were the prisoners incarcerated by these systems. Many others had a wide variety of interests in the operations of the prisoner-of-war systems, whether they were suppliers of provisions or transport, military officers concerned with war operations, political leaders struggling to pay the costs of war and prisoners of war, friends and relatives seeking relief and freedom for prisoner-of-war loved ones, and others. This introduction provides summary contextual information about a few of these people and seeks to guide researchers toward the appearance of others in the documents.

## Key People

As indicated above, a large proportion of the documents included in this Finding Aid come from the papers of three Americans who played important roles in the operation of the American prisoner-of-war operation. These are **Elias Boudinot**, the first Commissary General of Prisoners, who in 1777 and 1778 set up the network of geographically based Deputy Commissaries and prisoner-of-war camps and prisons; **William Atlee**, who served as Deputy Commissary at Lancaster, Pennsylvania for most of the war; and **Thomas Bradford**, Deputy Commissary at Philadelphia, who, late in the war was promoted to a new position of Deputy Commissary General, reflecting his greater responsibilities at Philadelphia for incarcerating and facilitating exchanges of large numbers of officer, soldier, and seaman prisoners.

Boudinot resigned as Commissary General in May 1778, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also for reasons of ill health. His replacement, **John Beatty**, had been appointed from a military career. He served as Commissary General from May 1778 until May 1780, when he in turn was replaced (for reasons not clear in the correspondence) by **Abraham Skinner**, who held this position from September 1780 until the end of the active war, in August 1782. Skinner was promoted from among the existing Deputy Commissaries, having previously been assigned to Goshen, New York, then Elizabeth, New Jersey, and also to the mobile “Camp” or “Headquarters” of the Continental Army.

Much of the correspondence consists of communications between Commissary Generals and their Deputy Commissaries. Besides Atlee at Lancaster and Bradford at Philadelphia, other important Deputy Commissaries from whom or to whom communications are found in the correspondence include (alphabetically) **John Adam** at Fishkill, New York and then at Elizabeth, New Jersey; **Henry Haller** at Reading, Pennsylvania; **Joseph Holmes** in Virginia (especially Winchester and also temporarily Fredericksburg); **Robert Hooper** at Easton, Pennsylvania; **Daniel Hughes** at Frederick, Maryland, followed there in 1781 by **Moses Rawlins**; **Joshua Mersereau** in Massachusetts (and, without official designation, other New England states); **Thomas Peters** at York, Pennsylvania; **Lewis Pintard** (briefly) in New York City; and **Ezekiel Williams** in Connecticut.

Although two of the commissaries general had served as junior army officers, almost none of the deputy commissaries were military officers. As each was appointed, he was assigned the equivalent of the military rank of Colonel for the Commissary General and Major for deputy commissaries. This made sense, since all the Commissaries had to be able to function with authority within the military command structure of the Continental Army and Navy and to relate to military prisoners of war used to the command structures of their own armies and navies.

The Commissaries communicated with many others besides their counterpart commissaries, including military leaders, political leaders, prisoners of war, suppliers of provisions and goods, private individuals, and others. The list of these is too long to itemize here.

This Finding Aid contains numerous notes by the DLAR volunteer researcher, which provide bits of secondary information about people, as well as places and events, along with their dates. These notes do not pretend to provide detailed secondary information. They do attempt to provide a few clues that reveal context helpful to understand the content of particular documents. Since these notes are fully searchable online, this secondary information has not been duplicated or summarized in this introduction.

## **Elias Boudinot**

As the first Commissary General of Prisoners for the American prisoner-of-war system, Elias Boudinot's perspective on prisoners of war was "continental." He organized and developed the network of prisoners of war prisons and camps and the system managed at different locations within the network by his Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners.

The French Huguenot Boudinot family had come to America in 1687, fleeing religious persecution in France and settling at New York. Elias' father, Elias Boudinot III, was a merchant and silversmith at Philadelphia, where he was a neighbor and friend of Benjamin Franklin. Elias IV ("our" Elias) was born in Philadelphia in 1740.

Apparently Elias decided early to practice law. Sometime in the late 1750s he went to Princeton, New Jersey to read law under and work as a legal apprentice to Richard Stockton. Stockton was a prominent attorney, who soon became a leading patriot in New Jersey, signed the Declaration of Independence while representing New Jersey in the Continental Congress, and was captured by loyalists and cruelly imprisoned by the British between November 1776 and January 1777 for treason. Stockton and Boudinot were also doubly related by marriage. Stockton's wife was Annis Boudinot, Elias' sister (who became an accomplished poet), and Boudinot's wife was Hannah Stockton, Richard's sister.

Elias was admitted to the bar in 1760 and opened a law practice in Elizabeth, New Jersey. By 1775, he had become an active patriot, serving in the New Jersey Provincial Assembly and associating with other patriot leaders, including his friend George Washington.

In May 1777, after Congress had authorized a network of prisoner-of-war camps, General George Washington, encouraged by Alexander Hamilton, prevailed on Congress to appoint Boudinot Commissary General of Prisoners, to organize and manage the new system. Boudinot, in turn, recommended and Congress appointed a number of geographically based Deputy Commissaries (including William Atlee and Thomas Bradford). This core group created and managed an American system of prisoner-of-war operations that functioned for the rest of the war.

Interestingly, in December 1778, Elias' brother **Elisha Boudinot** was appointed by the New Jersey Legislature to serve as Commissary of Prisoners for this state, assigned to Elizabeth, where he probably worked with Elias' Deputy Commissary John Adam. At least briefly, other states also appointed their own commissaries of prisoners. Soon, however, Elias' continental American prisoner-of-war operation effectively took over from the states. Elisha, who had settled in Newark, was, like his brother, an early revolutionary leader. He served as secretary of the New Jersey Council of Safety in 1777. After the war, he went on to practice law in Newark, rising to serve as an associate judge of the New Jersey Supreme Court from 1798-1804.

In November 1777, New Jersey selected Elias Boudinot as one of its delegates to the Continental Congress. Since both the prisoner-of-war system and the Congress required full-time attention, Boudinot felt he had to make a choice between them. By March 1778, he had communicated to the War Office his wish to resign as Commissary General. His resignation was accepted in May 1778. Circumstantial evidence exists, mostly in correspondence between Boudinot and his Deputy Commissaries, that he also resigned because of poor health. It is certain that he was intermittently ill with a fever during late 1777 and early 1778 (no surprise, perhaps, since he spent much of that winter with the army at Valley Forge). Whether this contributed to his official decision to resign is not clear.

Although Boudinot served as Commissary General for Prisoners for only slightly over a year, his influence on the system he created lasted throughout the war. Two other individuals filled the Commissary General position, John Beatty from May 1778 to May 1780 and Abraham Skinner from September 1780 through the end of the active war, in August 1782.

**Major John Beatty** was a military man from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Following his capture at Fort Mifflin in November 1776 and subsequent exchange, he was appointed Commissary General of Prisoners. Boudinot's correspondence is oddly silent about Beatty, his appointment, and any sort of transition between the two Commissary Generals. No correspondence between the two is found in the documents included in this Finding Aid. Judging from Beatty's correspondence, he may have been a less gifted manager and communicator than Boudinot seems to have been.



Unlike Beatty, **Abraham Skinner** was promoted from the ranks of Deputy Commissaries. Again, the correspondence contains few clues about why Beatty resigned in May 1780 and how Skinner was selected to replace him, after a delay of several months. Skinner was in charge during the period when General Cornwallis' army surrendered at Yorktown, greatly enhancing the number of prisoners of war held in the American prisoner-of-war network and leading to another extensive round of exchanges. Skinner managed these exchanges, working especially with Thomas Bradford and John Adam, Deputy Commissaries at Philadelphia and Elizabeth respectively.

Meanwhile, Boudinot stayed busy in other public capacities. He served in the Continental Congress in 1778 and again from 1781 to 1783. In late 1782, he became president of the Congress, just as the war was winding down. Thus, he was, in effect, the American chief executive who presided over the U.S. negotiation and signing of the peace treaty confirming the U.S. victory over Britain. He also presided over Congress' response to the so-called Pennsylvania Mutiny of 1783, when newly unemployed Continental soldiers protested in Philadelphia for pay they had not received. One aspect of Boudinot's response, moving the operating capital of the U.S. from Philadelphia to Princeton, was particularly controversial symbolically, but in the end practically useful. A few years later, Boudinot made the transition from Continental Congress delegate to U.S. Congressman from New Jersey, serving from 1789 until 1795. His final public position was as Director of the U.S. Mint from 1795 to 1805, when he finally retired from governmental life.

Boudinot was also active in many private activities and causes. Apart from using it as an interim capital, Boudinot had a long connection with the College of New Jersey (Princeton University), serving on its Board of Trustees from 1772 to 1821. He also remained active in many other religious, educational, and civic causes until his death in 1821.

A few documents in the Boudinot correspondence are of particular interest:

- Boudinot's summary statement (probably in August 1777) of his plan to create a network of prisoner-of-war prisons and camps and a system to operate them. (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Elias Boudinot Papers, Reel 4 document 42).
- Boudinot's March 3, 1778 letter to General George Washington, describing the obstacles British General William Howe had been placing to deter American attempts to transport provisions into Philadelphia, by water or by land, to feed the American prisoners of war incarcerated there during the British occupation of Philadelphia, and seeking Washington's assistance with Howe. (Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Reel 1 document 145). (The Letterbook has been transcribed and printed in a book edited by Joseph Lee Boyle, entitled "*Their Distress is almost intolerable*", *The Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778*, published by Heritage Books, Inc., 2002.)

- Text of statement in late 1777 or early 1778 by a joint Commission established by American General George Washington and British General William Howe to regularize rules between the combatting armies for both the treatment of and exchange of prisoners of war. The American Commission members included Colonel William Grayson, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Hanson Harrison, and Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hamilton, along with Elias Boudinot. The Commission's statement builds on and seeks to clarify the August 1776 agreement between Washington and Howe on prisoner-of-war exchanges.

This microfilmed copy of the Commission's statement (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Elias Boudinot Papers, Reel 4 document 112) appears to be incomplete and is microfilmed with the document's pages in the wrong order. Boudinot must have used this Commission's final report as a guide for his effort in early 1778 to negotiate a major general exchange, headlined with high-profile exchanges of two Generals and two Lieutenant Colonels. (For more on this general exchange effort, see "Colonel Elias Boudinot's Notes on Two Conferences Held by the American and British Commissioners to Settle a General Cartel for the Exchange of Prisoners of War, 1778" in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography*, XXIV (1900): 291-305; see also the next item.)

- Correspondence during the last half of 1777 and spring of 1778 concerning the high-profile exchanges of British General Richard Prescott for American General Charles Lee and of British Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell for American Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen, which occurred in the context of Boudinot's greater aim to negotiate a large, general exchange. After months of negotiations, the two high-profile exchanges were completed in May 1778. (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Elias Boudinot Papers, Reel 4 documents 37, 119, 155; Schwalm Collection, Library of Congress, Elias Boudinot Papers, Reel 1 document 56 and six documents between documents 101 and 121; Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Reel 1 documents 76, 121, 130, 136, 137, 140, and 153).
- Boudinot's summary report to the Board of War, dated March 10, 1778, on the current situation of pending prisoner-of-war exchanges—as he requested permission to resign from his position to focus his attention on his responsibilities as a New Jersey delegate to the Continental Congress and recommended William Atlee as his most qualified successor. (Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Reel 1 document 140).

Boudinot corresponded about prisoner-of-war matters with a great many people in addition to his colleague Deputy Commissaries and a number of high-ranking American and British military leaders. A few of the more significant and interesting correspondents include:

- H. Hugh Ferguson and David Franks, loyalists and British Commissaries of Prisoners at different times at Philadelphia, during the British occupation of that city, who had responsibility for distribution of provisions for American prisoners of war incarcerated there and for assisting in the approval of paroles and exchanges.
- Joshua Loring, a loyalist who was British Commissary of Prisoners and loyalist James Dick, who was Commissary of Naval Prisoners, both at New York, who had responsibilities for provisioning American prisoners of war incarcerated there and for assisting in the approval of paroles and exchanges.
- Richard Peters, Secretary for the Board of War in its organizational arm, the War Office, and later a member of the Board.
- Timothy Pickering, the Continental Army's Adjutant General and later a member of the Board of War.
- William Livingston, a member of the wealthy New York Livingston family and Governor of New Jersey, with whom Boudinot worked on prisoner-of-war matters and issues of interest to New Jersey before the Continental Congress.
- Robert Livingston, a member of the wealthy New York Livingston family, who lived on the family estate near Rhinebeck on the Hudson River during the Revolution, and who worked privately to help facilitate the acquisition and transport of provisions to American prisoners of war in New York.
- Thomas Franklin (no relation to Benjamin Franklin or his family), a Philadelphia Quaker who worked privately to help facilitate the acquisition and transport of provisions to American prisoners of war in Philadelphia during the British occupation there.

## Thomas Bradford

Unlike Elias Boudinot's broad view of prisoner-of-war operations, Thomas Bradford's perspective was focused on one local operation, albeit a large and complex one, at Philadelphia.

The Bradford family in America dates back to 1682, when Thomas Bradford's great grandfather **William Bradford** (1663-1752) arrived from England and settled in what soon became Pennsylvania. The same year, William Penn arrived to establish his Pennsylvania colony. William Bradford soon founded the first printing business in Pennsylvania. It remained a family business in Philadelphia for several generations.

William's grandson, **William Bradford** (1721-1791) worked in the family printing business but also struck out on his own in 1742 to publish the *Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser*, whose political slant anticipated the patriot politics of the 1760s and 1770s. He began a military career in 1747, rising through the ranks of the Pennsylvania Militia to become a Colonel by 1776 but leaving active duty to become Chairman of the Navy Board in 1777.

Around the corner from his printing shop, this William Bradford started the London Coffee House in Philadelphia as a place for gentlemen to discuss issues and carry on business. After the revolution, it was renamed simply The Coffee House. Later, it evolved into the Philadelphia Stock Exchange.

William's first son, **Thomas Bradford** (1745-1838), carried on both the family's printing business and his father's enthusiasm for the patriot cause in America. As the Revolutionary War began, Thomas was a Captain of a militia company in Philadelphia. His company saw action at Trenton and Princeton, and then at Brandywine and Germantown. In January 1778, Thomas was appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, first at the "Camp" of the Continental Army and, after the British evacuated Philadelphia in June 1778, at Philadelphia, where he served until the end of the war. In October 1780, he was promoted to Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners, a title he held until the war ended. (Incoming correspondence reveals that, for some time, Bradford used The Coffee House as his commissary office.)

The number of prisoners of war incarcerated at Philadelphia was large and included both soldiers and seamen. Managing them was complicated, since Philadelphia acted as a staging point for British and German prisoners of war to be funneled to Elizabeth, New Jersey to be exchanged for American prisoners incarcerated at New York.

In recognition of these enhanced responsibilities, Bradford was rewarded symbolically by being promoting him in 1780 to the new position of Deputy Commissary General, a position no one else held. After the war, Thomas returned to the family printing business, which he operated for most of his remaining life.

Thomas' brother, **William Bradford** (1755-1795) was an attorney in Philadelphia and served as Deputy Muster General during the war. Later, he served as Pennsylvania Attorney General from 1780 to 1791 and as U.S. Attorney General from 1794 to 1795. From 1791 to 1794, he was a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice. William married Susan Boudinot, Elias Boudinot's daughter.

Thomas appears to have been an effective administrator, a capacity that served him well as both Deputy Commissary of Prisoners and owner-operator of the family printing business. He must also have been a dedicated packrat, given the voluminous paper record he retained of his work in prisoner-of-war operations—not only correspondence but lists of prisoners, parole documents, and provision returns.

Two documents in the Bradford correspondence are of particular interest:

- “The Bradfords,” described as a history of Thomas Bradford’s family from 1660 to 1783, consisting of a 20-page handwritten transcript, dated June 9, 1881, of an original manuscript written by “Colonel William Bradford,” who would appear to be Thomas Bradford’s father. (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Thomas Bradford Papers, Reel 5 document 530).
- Instructions sent by Boudinot to Bradford about how properly to perform the responsibilities of a Deputy Commissary, as Bradford was beginning his appointment as Deputy Commissary at Philadelphia in early 1778. (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Thomas Bradford Papers, Reel 5 document 693). These instructions complement with more detail (20 numbered items) Boudinot’s more general 10-item statement of May 1777 about the design and operation of a prisoner-of-war network and system (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Elias Boudinot Papers, Reel 4 document 42).

Over his years of service, Bradford communicated with all three Commissaries General, Elias Boudinot, John Beatty, and Abraham Skinner, plus most of the Deputy Commissaries with whom Boudinot corresponded. In addition, he communicated with British Commissary for Naval Prisoners David Sproat, who had succeeded James Dick, and with Benjamin Stoddert and Timothy Matlack, both employed in the American War Office along with Richard Peters. In addition, a few of the more significant and interesting correspondents include:

- John Witherspoon, President of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University), who was an influential patriot and educational leader, but who appears in this correspondence as one example of a different approach to prisoner-of-war labor that Bradford used in his Philadelphia operation. Unlike the Lancaster experiment with German prisoner-of-war craftsman and farm laborers, some of whom lived away from the prison, Philadelphia’s approach was more limited and seemingly more political. Based on personal requests from influential people, some of which were forwarded through the War Office, Bradford approved assignment of individual, selected prisoners to work for individual private citizens as personal servants or other workers. Witherspoon requested one, and then a second, personal servant. In Philadelphia and probably in Lancaster, military officials were also able to request gangs of prisoners to work temporarily on the construction or repair of fortifications. This correspondence provides an interesting but incomplete glimpse into how prisoner-of-war labor was made available through the American prisons and camps. (for instance, Schwalm Collection, Thomas Bradford Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Reel 6 documents 721, 739).

- John Dyer Mercier, a mysterious person in this correspondence, who wrote letters to a Dr. Cour and to Thomas Bradford that ended up in the Bradford Papers. Although the letters appear to be personal correspondence, Dr. Cour's identity is not at all clear, nor is why Bradford received Cour's letters. Mercier was Canadian and became entangled in the American-British conflict during the 1776 Québec campaign. His loyalties were sufficiently questionable that he was imprisoned by the Americans, but by 1779, he seems to have become a dedicated American patriot.

Yet his letters, dated between December 1777 and March 1781, remain either personal (to Bradford) or obscure (to Dr. Cour). Possibly he was leading a double life as a spy—maybe even for the British as well as the Americans. (Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Thomas Bradford Papers, Reel 5 documents 534 with note following, 555, 560, 568, and 765, and Reel 6 document 360).

- Dr. Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly was a physician but also an extraordinary loyalist schemer and plotter on the fringes of the American Revolution. While practicing medicine at Pittsburgh, he got embroiled in Lord Dunsmore's War in 1774, siding with Virginia, resulting in his arrest and brief incarceration by Pennsylvania officials. After the revolutionary conflict began, he began agitating on the British side. Arrested again in June 1775 as a loyalist, he quickly escaped and turned up in Boston, peddling his plan to General Gage for British capture of Pittsburgh and the western frontier.

When his plan was leaked, he was arrested again, at Hagerstown, Maryland, and imprisoned at Philadelphia, where he commenced to harass prison officials and public leaders alike with petitions for better treatment, while scheming, unsuccessfully, to escape. When the British occupied Philadelphia in September 1777, Connolly was hustled off to a more secure jail at York, where he conspired with fellow prisoners to petition publicly for better conditions in the jail, which British Commissary of Prisoners Joshua Loring used to agitate against alleged cruelty by American prisoner-of-war officials. Back in the Philadelphia New Jail after the British evacuated in June 1778, and now under the jurisdiction of Deputy Commissary Bradford, Connolly's pleas for parole were finally granted in November 1779. After further pleas for exchange, he was paroled to New York to be exchanged for American Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel Ramsey in October 1780.

Connolly promptly returned to scheming, this time with General Henry Clinton, to regain Pittsburgh and the frontier for Britain. Again unsuccessful, he turned to regular British military duty. Assigned to General Charles Cornwallis' army in Virginia, he left Yorktown ahead of the surrender in October 1781, only to be captured by American troops, who sent him back to Bradford's prison at Philadelphia until March 1782, when he finally was exchanged and sailed to England.

Yet Connolly still had not finished fighting against the American Revolution, nor did his luck improve. By the mid-1780s, Connolly was back in North America, supporting James Wilkinson's filibuster attempts for Kentucky independence, first from the State of Virginia and then from the United States through a union with Spain (back in 1770 Connolly had speculated in land on the site of modern Louisville and still hoped to settle there).

After these schemes too failed, he settled down in (still British) Detroit and later moved to Montreal, where he died in 1813. (documents included in this Finding Aid focus on Connolly's imprisonments, in the Peter Force Collection, Lancaster Committee of Safety Papers, Reel 6 document 2 with note; and the Schwalm Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Thomas Bradford Papers, Reel 5 documents 628, 637 with note, 650, 716, 757 and Reel 6 documents 97, 142, 217, 226, 232, 233, 250, 471, 474, all dated between January 1776 and February 1782).

## **William Augustus Atlee**

William Atlee's perspective on prisoner-of-war matters, like Thomas Bradford's, was localized to the prisoner-of-war operation at Lancaster, which, along with Bradford's Philadelphia operation, were the two largest in the system.

William Augustus Atlee was born in Philadelphia in 1735. He died in Lancaster in 1793. As a young man, he moved to Lancaster to read law with Edward Shippen, a prominent and well connected attorney. Atlee entered the bar in 1758 and practiced law for most of the rest of his life.

The Atlee Papers in the Peter Force Collection begin in 1759, shortly after Atlee had begun practicing law, and continue until late in his life, in 1792. They are interspersed among other documents in the collection's Series 9, entitled "Miscellaneous Manuscripts." Most of the Atlee papers consist of correspondence.

As a committed patriot to the American revolutionary cause, Atlee served in a number of important positions in Lancaster and at the Pennsylvania level, including member and chairman of the Lancaster Committee of Safety (1775 to 1778 in these documents), Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster (1776 to 1782), and Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court (1777 to 1791). Atlee also represented the Lancaster Committee of Safety at the Philadelphia Provincial Conference in June 1776 that created the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's first government.

Since the responsibilities and concerns of these positions tended to overlap, this Finding Aid includes all of the Atlee documents found scattered through Series 9, even those that do not relate directly to prisoner-of-war matters. In particular, the **Lancaster Committee of Safety**, whose papers are scattered through Series 9 and also included in this Finding Aid, share a preoccupation, along with Atlee's (and others') prisoners-of-war operations, over how needed supplies could be acquired and paid for.

Atlee's correspondence as **Deputy Commissary of Prisoners** at Lancaster comprises the largest segment of the Atlee Papers. The letters are concerned with the same kinds of issues that all Deputy Commissaries dealt with in managing prisoner-of-war operations, as they were applied in one particular prisoner-of-war operation at Lancaster. More fully stated, these included:

- Developing a prison facility and managing it, with their issues of labor and supply of materials for construction and consumable goods for food, clothing, firewood, and other prisoner necessities—as well as financial issues related to paying for supplies and labor, including pay for the guards.
- Transporting prisoners from prison to prison for various reasons or to be paroled or exchanged, all of which required an armed guard for security. Some officers seem to have paid for their own transport, but large movements of prisoners, along with some number of servants, wives, and children, required the provision of wagons as well as guards.
- Handling petitions from prisoners, especially officers, some of whom petitioned to regain their baggage and/or servants, while some servants petitioned to be transferred to the location where their “master” was incarcerated, and others petitioned to complain about conditions unbecoming a gentleman or requested special consideration for parole, permission to go to New York to seek their own exchange, or otherwise to get exchanged.
- Managing a process of using prisoner-of-war labor in the local economy, especially at Lancaster, where German prisoners could be paired with German immigrant inhabitants of Pennsylvania—a unique process that allowed certain prisoners to earn some of their prison costs, while helping to enhance productivity in the local economy and the American war effort.
- Managing a process of paroling and exchanging prisoners of war, which was complex and fraught with mutual suspicions, but which also was mutually beneficial, not only for the prisoners paroled and exchanged, but also for each of the warring countries.



Related correspondence of interest in the Atlee papers includes:

- Letters to and from business and professional colleagues, mostly before and after the war, including especially correspondence with John and William Cox (apparently personal friends and business colleagues), and Paul Zantzinger (a friend from Lancaster).
- Letters to and occasionally from Atlee's wife Esther Bowes Sayre Atlee, whom he called "Hetty." These are personal letters that also contain information about Atlee's professional (including Deputy Commissary) life when he was away from Lancaster.
- Occasional personal letters to Atlee from his younger brother Samuel John Atlee, who was a prisoner of war of the British between 1776 and 1778. Samuel's letters request that his brother send sustenance and help him to be liberated. In turn, Atlee corresponded with his friend and boss, Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot, seeking his assistance in getting Samuel paroled and exchanged (Boudinot letters to Atlee on this matter are found in the Boudinot Letterbook included in this Finding Aid).  
[Note: **Samuel John Atlee** (1739-1786) had been a soldier in the (British) Pennsylvania Militia since 1756. In early 1776, by now a Colonel, he organized and led the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion. In August, he was captured by the British during the Battle of Long Island. He remained a prisoner of war until exchanged in August 1778. Following his return to Lancaster, he went into politics, serving in the Continental Congress, the Pennsylvania Assembly, and as County Executive for Lancaster County.]
- Correspondence with colleagues on the **Pennsylvania Supreme Court**, including especially Thomas McKean, Chief Justice, and fellow Justices George Bryan (prominent Pennsylvania politician along with McKean) and Jacob Rush (brother of Dr. Benjamin Rush, whose wife was Julia Stockton, daughter of Richard Stockton and Annis Boudinot Stockton).

Three especially interesting individual letters include the following:

- On December 7, 1777, the Chevalier d'Anterroches wrote to Atlee as the person in charge of prisoners of war at Lancaster. He wrote as gentleman to gentleman, telling him that he was coming to live in Lancaster, and wished to meet with Atlee and to introduce to him certain important acquaintances of his, including the Marquis de Lafayette. Not mentioned in the letter is that he was himself a prisoner of war being moved to Lancaster, and that he was seeking to influence Atlee to help him obtain parole and exchange. Anterroches was from an aristocratic French family and was a distant cousin of Lafayette. He had run away from home to join the British Army but had been captured in his first military encounter, at Saratoga. (Peter Force Collection, William Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 35)

- Between September and December 1777, two Lancaster friends of Atlee, both serving in the American army (Colonel Thomas Hartley and Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr.) wrote letters to Atlee and Paul Zantzinger providing dramatic, personal descriptions of military actions during the Battles of Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown and their aftermath. (Peter Force Collection, William Atlee Papers, Reel 8, between documents 7 and 38)
- Very briefly, in 1782 and 1783, correspondence appears from Brigadier General Moses Hazen to Atlee. Hazen was nothing if not colorful. By this time, his active military career had ended after Cornwallis' Yorktown surrender, and his regiment had been assigned to guard duty over the prisoners of war at Lancaster. In an April 18, 1782 letter to Atlee, he hinted somewhat indirectly at his desire for an appointment, perhaps to replace Atlee as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster. On February 23, 1783, no longer in Lancaster, he commented critically on the prospects for success of the new United States, now that peace is coming. (Peter Force Collection, William Atlee Papers, Reel 11 documents 18, 26)

## Friendships and Relationships

Most of those corresponding in the documents included in this Finding Aid were "gentlemen." In the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century, these cultural and economic elites communicated among one another using particular formal but equalizing language conventions (for example "Your most humble and obedient servant" usually greatly abbreviated), as well as a flowery, wordy writing style (by modern standards). The art of a well written gentleman's letter is frequently displayed in this correspondence. Also in evidence is the familiarity of friendship and even affection that reveals something of the real human beings behind the façade of gentlemanly discourse.

A high degree of gentlemanly friendship is found among many of the correspondents in these papers. A few are even related, mostly by marriage. In general, a similar observation might be made concerning many of the gentlemen who played the leading roles throughout the American revolutionary cause.

In particular among the documents in this Finding Aid, a core group of those who served as Commissary General and Deputy Commissaries were friends and sometimes relatives. George Washington's preference of his friend Elias Boudinot to be Commissary General and Boudinot's proclivity to recommend friends to be Deputy Commissaries brought together a talented cadre of gentlemen to create and operate the American prisoner of war system.

A particular web of marriage relationships among five individuals, three of whom played direct roles in the American prisoner-of-war system, provides an interesting example:

- Elias Boudinot (Commissary General of Prisoners, who learned law from Stockton): married Richard Stockton's sister Hannah.
- Richard Stockton (New Jersey Declaration signer, who taught Boudinot law): married Elias Boudinot's sister Annis.
- The brother, William, of Thomas Bradford (Deputy Commissary of Prisoners and later Deputy Commissary General) married Elias Boudinot's daughter Susan.
- Lewis Pintard (briefly Deputy Commissary at New York City, before being sent packing by the British, and Boudinot's close business colleague) married Richard Stockton's sister Susanna.
- Benjamin Rush (medical doctor, leading patriot, and friend of the Stockton and Boudinot families) married Richard and Annis Boudinot Stockton's daughter Julia.

William Atlee is missing in this web of relationships. His life seems to have been focused more on Lancaster, and his family did not get drawn into family intermarriages as did those of his colleagues. Nor did Atlee accept Boudinot's effort in 1778 to convince him to succeed Boudinot as Commissary General of Prisoners, preferring to continue his prisoner-of-war work at Lancaster.

## **The American Prisoner-of-War Network and System**

The geographic network and administrative system that Elias Boudinot established in 1777 reflected geographically a combination of where existing infrastructure and known managers were available to jump-start a process of prisoner-of-war incarceration and care, and of where military campaigns were actively yielding prisoners of war. Both factors led to a network focused on Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and northern Virginia (locations not far from but not too near New York City). Smaller prisoner-of-war operations were located in parts of New England, but the Southern states were never geographically added to the network. Most prisoners of war from the later southern campaign and Yorktown were sent north to northern Virginia, Maryland, and especially Pennsylvania, where the greatest capacity of the network was found.

The so-called "Convention Army" of Saratoga prisoners of war was never brought into the network. Because of its unique "convention" status, it remained mobile, moving throughout the war to sites from New England to northern Virginia and back, mostly to remain distant from active military campaigns. Instead of relying on a bureaucracy of commissaries to provide for their needs, the Convention Army prisoners of war relied more on "living off the land."

A noticeable exception was the number of Convention Army prisoners who became ill or deserted, were captured, and who ended up in the regular prisoners-of-war network. In most of the documents in this Finding Aid, the Convention Troops appear, mostly at Lancaster, as ill and wounded invalids. The exception is the small collection of prisoner-of-war returns from the Horatio Gates Papers, which are included in this Finding Aid so as not to ignore this large group of mobile prisoners-of-war who never fit into Boudinot's prisoner-of-war system.

Early in the network's operation, a major refrain in the correspondence among American Commissaries concerned the difficulties they encountered in financing, procuring, and constructing barracks and other needed prison facilities. Later, the focus of concern became procuring provisions and, soon after, negotiating and financing exchanges.

In general, British and German prisoners of war held by the Americans benefited from the basic truth that Americans controlled the productive hinterland, while Britain controlled little territory, except where its armies were actively engaged, and therefore had to rely on delivery of provisions by ship for both their American prisoners of war and their own troops. For all the struggles of Boudinot and his Deputy Commissaries to procure and deliver provisions, they still had an easier task than did the British.

For the American and British prisoner-of-war operations, providing for prisoners of war was not simply a matter of finding enough food and clothing to sustain the enemy prisoners they held. Rather, internationally accepted rules required each army to provide for its own captured troops. Since this often was impractical in reality, an accounting system based on a daily allowance per prisoner was supposed to determine the money value of provisions consumed by each prisoner. When, as was often true, the captor army actually supplied provisions to their captives, they were supposed to be reimbursed with money by the opposing army, based on the account of each of their own prisoners, before the prisoners could be exchanged.

This required much accounting and negotiation by the American Commissaries with their British counterparts and the expenditure of large quantities of money, as is documented in the correspondence included in this Finding Aid. Occasionally, both provisioning and exchange negotiations were complicated by requirements (imposed by the British) to use hard specie rather than deflated (American) paper money. The correspondence among American Commissaries includes numerous requests for cash money from the Treasury and many instances reporting the conveyance of large sums of money to be spent on provisions or exchanges.

Especially during 1777 and 1778, when the British occupied and held American prisoners of war in both New York and Philadelphia, the American effort to obtain and transport provisions to their own prisoners became a major concern, effort, and headache. The perspective of the American Commissaries was that the British military commanders were excessively cautious about, and perhaps vindictively opposed to, allowing American vessels to approach either New York or Philadelphia to deliver provisions for American prisoners of war. Elias Boudinot's correspondence in particular regularly expresses distress at the hardships suffered by prisoners of war—especially American prisoners but also the “enemy” prisoners under the care of his system.

## **Lancaster Committee of Safety Papers and Minutes**

While the papers and transcribed minutes of the Lancaster Committee of Safety included in this Finding Aid are less directly related to prisoner-of-war matters, the concerns of the Committee are similar to but broader than those of the Commissaries of Prisoners, and thus are instructive in providing context, especially for the prisoner-of-war operations in Lancaster. The personal link between the two is William Atlee who, at various times, served both as a member or chairman of the Committee and as Lancaster's Deputy Commissary of Prisoners.

These papers and minutes are interesting also because they offer insights into the governing and judicial activities of the committee system that governed the affairs of most localities and states in the new United States. While certain leading citizens were perennial members or chairs of the small operating committees, a fair amount of grassroots democracy came to underpin local governance through a Standing Committee consisting of township representatives, elected by local inhabitants. The Standing Committee met annually to elect members of the smaller, operational committee or committees.

Still, the structure of local government by committee in Lancaster County, Lancaster Borough, and the various townships, was quite fluid during this period. The reason seems clear. These citizen committees filled a vacuum left by the collapse of British colonial rule, its authority and its institutions, during a transition period characterized by domestic uncertainty, stress, and even chaos, just when organizational structure and competent leadership were needed in abundance to manage the revolutionary war effort, and before the new United States in America were able to assert their authority or organize their own governing institutions.

## Prisoner-of-War Lists

The documents included in this Finding Aid include various kinds of lists and returns of prisoners of war from different microfilm collections of manuscripts held by different sources. (Terminology of the archivists is used here, including use of the term “Hessian” rather than the more accurate “German.” These lists and returns can be summarized as follows:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Prisoner-of-war lists for British and Hessians imprisoned at Lancaster, Pennsylvania  | Library of Congress<br>Peter Force Collection, Series 9<br>(Miscellaneous Manuscripts)<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 664, Reels 6-11                 |
| Prisoner-of-war lists for Hessians, Waldeckers, and British soldiers, plus provision returns and parole security statements and forms | Historical Society of Pennsylvania<br>Johannes Schwalm Historical Association<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 733, Reels 1-3                           |
| Prisoner-of-war lists for British Army and Navy prisoners imprisoned at Philadelphia  | Historical Society of Pennsylvania<br>Thomas Bradford Papers<br>Johannes Schwalm Historical Association<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 733, Reels 4-5 |
| Prisoner-of-war provision returns for British soldiers imprisoned at Philadelphia   | Historical Society of Pennsylvania<br>Thomas Bradford Papers<br>Johannes Schwalm Historical Association<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 733, Reel 4    |
| Prisoner-of-war parole security statements and forms for British prisoners captured at sea and imprisoned at Philadelphia             | Historical Society of Pennsylvania<br>Johannes Schwalm Historical Association<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 733, Reel 5                              |
| Articles of a Cartel (copy), May 3, 1781  | Historical Society of Pennsylvania<br>Johannes Schwalm Historical Association<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 733, Reel 4                              |
| Prisoner-of-War Returns (mostly of Convention Troops)   | New York Historical Society<br>Horatio Gates Papers<br>DLAR Microfilm Set 23, Reels 18-19  |

The Deputy Commissaries needed these lists and documents to keep track of prisoners and their locations for security purposes and to manage their provisioning, paroles, and exchanges. For researchers, the lists can provide valuable information about the prisoners themselves, their ranks, regiments, locations, health status, wives and children (usually not by name), the date and place of their capture, their movements from place to place, the provisions supplied them, their parole and exchange status, their aggregate numbers, their desertion rates, and more.

Some lists, especially provision returns, do not include the names of individual prisoners, but many do. In general, the entries in this Finding Aid do not list individual names, even when they are included in manuscript lists, because a single list can contain hundreds of names.

The lists documented in this Finding Aid provide evidence that American prisoner-of-war camps and prisons (and the mobile Convention Army) held large numbers of prisoners. The numbers (except in the Convention Army, whose numbers were never augmented with new prisoners and whose prisoners were not eligible to be exchanged) varied considerably over time, depending on the timing of major military victories and of general exchanges. This fluctuation increased the planning headaches of the Deputy Commissaries, especially in determining the demand for hard-to-procure provisions and other supplies.

Judging from the prisoner-of-war lists, the numbers are large. This impression must be tempered with the understanding that the two prisoner-of-war operations documented in some detail in this Finding Aid, at Lancaster and at Philadelphia, were the two largest operations. Prisoners of war were imprisoned in many other locations but in much smaller numbers.

At Lancaster, during peak periods, the barracks held between about 600 and 850 prisoners, while the jail held between about 60 and 125 additional prisoners. A typical peak-time summary list of Lancaster barracks prisoners dated February 10, 1777 includes 843 men in good health, 61 sick, 1 absent by permission, 5 "*inlisted into our service*," 1 "*with the Carpenter*," and 2 women. By the spring of 1778, these numbers were drastically reduced as Commissary General Boudinot emptied the prisons to provide British and German prisoners for a planned general exchange. By October 1781, the prisons were filled again after the surrender of General Cornwallis' army at Yorktown.

Philadelphia could accommodate large numbers of prisoners as well, although the lists included in this Finding Aid may or may not be comprehensive and do not lend themselves to comparison. One comprehensive looking list for Philadelphia, dated October 11, 1779, reported the following: those in prison (644), on parole (23), at work (214), in the hospital (95), totaling 976 prisoners, plus 28 women and children in the prison.

The prisoner-of-war system of the new United States did not spring into being fully developed at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. As revealed in documents listed throughout this Finding Aid, prisoner-of-war operations tended to evolve incrementally as needed out of existing civilian jail and military barracks operations. Available local jails and militia barracks were taken over to house initial arrivals of prisoners of war. Congress soon began to authorize and order construction of new barracks, but these never became available as quickly as the influx of prisoners required, especially after the battles at Trenton and Princeton in winter 1776-1777. Deputy Commissaries scrambled to meet the needs, often with tents.

A few of the prisoner-of-war lists and letters, especially from Lancaster, document the transition of local jails from incarcerating local civilians for domestic crimes to housing British and German prisoners of war.

As early as October 1775, a few British officer prisoners of war were arriving at Lancaster. In February and March 1776, still before a declaration of independence, the Pennsylvania Committee issued orders for the incarceration of officer prisoners of war in several towns in the state. By June, British officer prisoners of war captured in Canada were being brought to Lancaster.

Only days after the Declaration of Independence, the Continental Congress issued orders in July 1776 for the Lancaster Committee of Safety to prepare the existing town barracks to serve as an expanded jail, specifically for prisoners of war. A stockade was to be built around the barracks, and guards were to be acquired and equipped.

Philadelphia did not become a prisoner-of-war center until the next year, but its numbers soon increased rapidly. By chance, a new jail (called just that) had recently been constructed in Philadelphia. It was now taken over to incarcerate prisoners of war. Both soldiers and seamen were imprisoned here. This jail had the unique distinction of completely changing its prison population, and then changing it back. British and some German prisoners were kept here between early 1777 and September 1778, when the British occupied Philadelphia. At this time, the British and German prisoners were hustled off to other locations, and the British soon filled New Jail with American prisoners of war. Then, in June 1778, when the British evacuated Philadelphia, the American prisoners departed with the troops and loyalists, and New Jail was again filled with British prisoners of war.

Beginning in 1778, Philadelphia acted as a collecting point for prisoners to be exchanged. Since most American prisoners of war were incarcerated at New York and on Long Island, the prisoner-of-war operation at Elizabeth, New Jersey became important as the way station for transport of prisoners on both sides for exchanges. Numerous letters included in this Finding Aid (some between Commissary General Elias Boudinot and his Deputy Commissaries and others later between Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary at Philadelphia and John Adam, Deputy Commissary at Elizabeth) document their efforts to move prisoners of war, to negotiate their exchanges, and to pay the money necessary to settle accounts before an exchange.



## References

Identification and organization of the documents included in this Finding Aid according to their manuscript sources are made easier with the help of these references:

- **Peter Force: A Register of his Papers in the Library of Congress**, Library of Congress Manuscript Division, [no date]; .pdf file found at [lib.jrshelby.com](http://lib.jrshelby.com) with search for Peter Force papers Library of Congress/register. Series 7E Item 68 is found on page 83, Series 8D Item 86 on page 150, and Series 9 on pages 172 and 173.
- **Index for Series 9 and Guide to the Use of the Peter Force Index for Series 9**, compiled by Library of Congress staff, both found microfilmed at the beginning of the first reel of the Series 9 microfilmed documents (DLAR Microfilm Set 664, Reel 1). The Index for Series 9 is valuable up to a point. It lists each document according to a title given to it by archivists (perhaps Peter Force himself), as written on a folder holding the original manuscript document. In each case, both the folder and the document have been microfilmed. The titles are frequently helpful in the index (e.g. a letter identified as "Lancaster Committee of Safety to Pennsylvania Council of Safety"). However, many titles are less helpful, e.g. when a prisoner list is identified by the name of the military officer in charge of moving the prisoners to Lancaster.
- ***Manuscript Sources in the Library of Congress for Research on the American Revolution***. Library of Congress, 1975. This valuable resource of sources identifies only two of the sources of microfilmed documents from LC that are included in this Finding Aid: Entry 124 (William A. Atlee Papers 1759-1816, page 27, Peter Force Collection Series 9); and Entry 156 (Elias Boudinot Papers 1773-1812, page 34). Entry 474 (Lancaster County Committee of Safety Minutes, 1774-1777, page 100) is important from the perspective of this Finding Aid, but its microfilms are not owned by DLAR. Transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety Minutes (Peter Force Collection Series 7E Item 68), which are included in this Finding Aid, have not been found separately listed in ***Manuscript Sources***. Also, while many entries relate to prisoners of war, none identifies a prisoner-of-war lists collection within the Peter Force Collection. Such prisoner lists are there, but they are scattered throughout Series 9.
- **Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania**. Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1991. Among the HSP manuscript holdings included in this Finding Aid are Collection 68 (Elias Boudinot papers), Collection 875 (lists of Hessian, including Waldeck, and British Prisoner of War), and Collections 71, 1036, and 1676 (Bradford Family papers, including Thomas Bradford correspondence and documents pertaining to prisoner-of-war matters). In 2000, The Johannes Schwalm Historical Association purchased microfilm reels containing manuscript documents held by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP).

- In 2010, the JSHA “permanently loaned” these microfilmed reels to the DLAR. Neither the JSHA nor the HSP identified the specific collection or collections from which the documents were microfilmed. A researcher wishing to study the original documents will therefore need to look into Collections 71, 1036, and 1676. See also the separate HSC document on Collection 1676, also referenced here.
- **Collection 1676, Bradford Family Papers 1620-1906.** Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 2006. This document includes an abstract of the family’s history and descriptions of the contents of the three Series into which HSP’s Collection 1676 is divided. Series III contains Thomas Bradford papers dated between 1776 and 1783 concerning both army and naval prisoners of war.
- **Horatio Gates Papers, 1726-1828: A Guide to the Microfilm Edition.** The New York Historical Society and the National Historical Records and Publications Commission, 1979. This printed typescript guide contains detailed listings of the manuscript contents of the microfilmed Gates Papers. Of interest in this Finding Aid are prisoner-of-war returns scattered within a larger set of various kinds of Returns (as well as orderly books) found in Series II of the microfilm collection. Series I contains Correspondence, and Series III contains Financial Papers. The Guide reveals little of what might be useful, in the voluminous correspondence collection, in relation to prisoners of war because the Guide’s correspondence entries are limited mostly to listing “to and from” information.

Other useful references include the following:

- Baumgardt, Kenneth, **The Royal Army in America During the Revolutionary War: The American Prisoner Records.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Christiana, DE. A Draft Report in progress circulated on the Internet in 2008. The article’s Introduction makes the claim that the three most useful sources for information on Royal Army prisoners of war are the Library of Congress, the Pennsylvania Archives, and records of “the Hospital Corps of the Continental Army, which detailed the names, ranks, and medical situation of many of the British prisoners during this period. These records are preserved in the collected papers of Lieutenant General [Horatio] Gates, a copy of which are available at the David Library....”. The Horatio Gates Papers referenced are indeed available on microfilm at the David Library, but no specific reference has been found in them to the Hospital Corps, only a few of the prisoner-of-war returns list ill and wounded prisoners, and only one of them identifies prisoners by medical situation, defined as wounded or ill from one of several specified conditions.
- Burton, Clarence Monroe, *John Connolly: Tory of the Revolution* in the **American Antiquarian Society Magazine**, October 1909. An interesting but dated source on one of the Revolution’s more intriguing loyalists.

- Fox, Francis S., *Research Note: The Minutes and Papers of the Revolutionary Committees in Lancaster County, 1774-1777* in **Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies**, Volume 71, No. 2, 2004. This research note clarifies that the Peter Force Collection's Series 9 does not include minutes of Lancaster Committee of Safety meetings but rather other papers, especially correspondence (whose microfilms DLAR does own). As reported by Fox, minutes can be found especially in Series 8D Item 86 and Series 7E Item 68. Series 8D Item 86 contains original documents (whose microfilms DLAR does not own), while Series 7E Item 68 contains transcripts (commissioned by Peter Force in 1854) of original documents (whose microfilms DLAR does own). Although the two sets of minutes overlap considerably, they are not identical.
- Krebs, Daniel, *A Generous and Merciful Enemy: Life for German Prisoners of War during the American Revolution*. University of Oklahoma Press, 2013.
- Miller, Ken, *Dangerous Guests: Enemy Captives and Revolutionary Communities during the War for Independence*. Cornell University Press, 2014.

David Swain, Volunteer Researcher  
David Library of the American Revolution  
December 2016

## **William Augustus Atlee Papers** **in The Peter Force Collection, Series 9** **Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents**

**Note:** These Atlee papers are found scattered among many other documents in Series 9 of The Peter Force Collection, in the Library of Congress (LC) Manuscript Division. LC has microfilmed Series 9 in 17 reels, numbered 96 through 112. The David Library owns microfilm copies of LC Reels 96 and 98 through 109 (which it has identified as DLAR Reels 1 through 13, catalogued as Microfilm Set 664).

**Note:** All of the Atlee Papers microfilmed in Series 9 and found using the LC General Index for Series 9 are included in this Finding Aid, although some documents relate to personal or business matters and not directly to prisoner-of-war matters. These scattered documents are best found in their microfilm reel using each document's Frame Number. Together, these papers reveal much about both William Atlee the individual and family man and William Atlee the Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster and leader in the Lancaster Committee of Safety.

**Note:** No Atlee Papers are found in **Reel 1** (LC Reel 96) or **Reel 2** (LC Reel 98) of Series 9 of the microfilmed Peter Force Collection that is owned by the David Library of the American Revolution. LC Reel 97 (1725 through 1752) is not included in the microfilmed reels owned by the David Library.

### **Reel 3 (LC Reel 99)**

#### **Summary Contents:**

**Volume 9/8** January 30, 1758 to December 29, 1759    3 documents    [Frames 1-354]

**Volume 9/9** January 7, 1760 to December 6, 1763    0 documents    [Frames 355-639]

#### **Itemized, Annotated Contents:**

**Volume 9/8** January 30, 1758 to December 29, 1759    3 documents    [Frames 1-354]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. March 3, 1759 [228]  
Letter from Samuel John Atlee (1739-1786) at Legionnaire to his brother William Augustus Atlee (1735-1793), concerning sundry personal and family matters  
[Note: A Legionnaire Drive is found today in Fredericksburg, PA, about 25 miles NE of Harrisburg. Whether this is where Samuel Atlee was located in March 1759 is not clear.]  
[Note: Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
2. September 26, 1759 [291]  
Letter from John Mather, on the Monongahela River near Red Stone Creek, to William Atlee, concerning his travels to investigate lands in western Pennsylvania, including mentions of Pittsburgh, Fort Necessity, and Fort Cumberland; concerning other business and personal matters
3. October 23, 1759 [300]  
Letter from Samuel Atlee, at Camp Monongahela near Red Stone Creek, to William Atlee, concerning personal and family matters

**Volume 9/9** January 7, 1760 to December 6, 1763 0 documents [Frames 355-639]

## Reel 4 (LC Reel 100)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/10** March 1, 1764 to December 13, 1769 0 documents [Frames 1-533]

**Volume 9/11** January 19, 1770 to April 28, 1775 4 documents [Frames 534-628]

**Volume 9/12** (begin) May 1, 1775 to June 11, 1775 0 documents [Frames 629-825]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/10** March 1, 1764 to December 13, 1769 0 documents [Frames 1-533]

**Volume 9/11** January 19, 1770 to April 28, 1775 4 documents [Frames 534-628]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. December 30, 1771 [462]  
Letter from the Rev. Thomas Barton to William Augustus Atlee, declaring him still a "warm Friend, and Advocate of the Church" despite "*Conduct, which I plainly foresee must be highly injurious to your Reputation, & private Interest; and which, perhaps, may be the Means of fomenting such Divisions, as may entirely annihilate this poor little Congregation, for which I save so long laboured*"
2. October 14, 1772 [490]  
Letter from Leonard Ellmaker to Atlee, "*Order to deliver Note to Defendant [James McDill] on paying Costs*"; note by Atlee that the note was sent on January 26, 1773
3. October 2, 1773 [511]  
Letter from Jesse Lukons at Sunbury to Atlee, concerning legal disputes about land sales that have had bearing on Atlee's reputation
4. January 8, 1774 [519]  
Letter from Plunket Fleeson at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning an accounting issue in relation to a chair

**Volume 9/12** (begin) May 1, 1775 to June 11, 1775 0 documents [Frames 629-825]

## **Reel 5 (LC Reel 101)**

### **Summary Contents:**

**Volume 9/12** (end) June 12, 1775 to June 30, 1775 0 documents [Frames 1-92]

**Volume 9/13** July 5, 1775 to October 31, 1775 0 documents [Frames 93-406]

**Volume 9/14** November 1, 1775 to December 31, 1775 0 documents [Frames 407-653]

## **Reel 6 (LC Reel 102)**

### **Summary Contents:**

**Volume 9/15** January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776 0 documents [Frames 1-247]

**Volume 9/16** June 7, 1776 to July 30, 1776 6 documents [Frames 248-510]

**Volume 9/17** August 1, 1776 to October 28, 1776 14 documents [Frames 511-821]

## Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/15** January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776      0 documents      [Frames 1-247]

**Volume 9/16** June 7, 1776 to July 30, 1776      6 documents      [Frames 248-510]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. July 17, 1776 [405]  
Letter from Sergeant John Gay, a prisoner in Lancaster jail, to William Augustus Atlee, seeking to be moved for confinement in the barracks; asking for assistance in acquiring his belongings at his home in town through Sergeant Hunter; seeking benevolence concerning the circumstances of his motherless children  
[Note: Sometime late in 1776, Atlee was appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, but this letter appears to predate that appointment.]
2. July 23, 1776 [428]  
Letter from Atlee, Chairman of the Committee of Safety in Lancaster, to Benjamin Franklin, President of the Committee of Pennsylvania, responding on behalf of the Committee that they will carry out the raising and moving of a battalion as directed by the Convention, but that they lack sufficient stores and weapons for the troops
3. July 23, 1776 [432]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee Chairman Atlee to Richard Peters, Secretary of the Board of War [in its administrative arm, the War Office], in Philadelphia, stating that Captain Sterling had been assigned to "*conduct a number of Prisoners to this Town*"; stating that the barracks are already full and that additional space would have to be procured to accommodate them; mentioning the activities of other officers, including Captain William Godwin of the artillery and Captain Gamble; commenting about the parole process, in particular in relation to a prisoner named John Brown [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 43]

4. July 25, 1776 [458]  
Draft of a circular letter from Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, to townships in the county, suggesting that they appoint “*a proper number of judicious persons residing in the said Counties responsibility to distribute to the distressed Families of such associators, as are called into Actual Service and are not of ability to maintain themselves*” and that they report the names of those appointed to the Lancaster Committee [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 49]
5. July 27, 1776 [479]  
Letter from soldier Robert House in the Royal Fusiliers, a prisoner in the Lancaster barracks, to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, requesting a pass to return briefly to his master, John Kennedy, stating that “*As I was ordered to leave him upon a sudden, I not only left my Wages unsettled, but also great part of my Necessaries behind*” [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 53]
6. July [?], 1776 [500]  
Fragment of letter from Atlee to an unknown person, concerning the inventory and sale of “*cloathing & other Articles of the Officers who absconded from Lebanon in this County in July 1776*” [appears to be first two pages of a draft letter considerably marked up and perhaps never sent]  
[**Note:** Atlee’s and the Lancaster Committee of Safety’s correspondence between July 1776 and February 1778 (documents scattered between Reel 6 document 6 and Reel 8 document 47) reveals a series of concerns about prisoners of war at, escaped from, or passing through **Lebanon**, Pennsylvania. Although Lebanon never had a large prison for prisoners of war, such as the barracks built at Lancaster, some prisoners of war were kept there, at least temporarily, at least early in the war. Atlee at Lancaster appears to have been responsible for the prisoners at Lebanon.]

**Volume 9/17** August 1, 1776 to October 28, 1776 14 documents [Frames 511-821]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

7. August 1, 1776 [513]  
Letter from Gabriel Davis of the Earltown Township (now East Earl Township, east of New Holland) Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning an order to supply clothing which did not appear to be among the “*Regular orders from the Committee*”; requesting clarification [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 58]



8. August 5, 1776 [534]  
Letter from a prisoner, Jonathan Pilling, to the Lancaster Committee chaired by Atlee, seeking permission to be moved to the barracks, where he has a friend he would like to be near [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 61]
  
9. August 13, 1776 [568]  
Letter from John Hubley at Philadelphia to Atlee, reporting that he had delivered money and a letter to a Mr. Cox, whose brother William "*tells me that your Privateer is almost finish'd and already Man'd; that his Brother has been offered five & twenty PCent profit on his Shares*"; reporting that "*Our Militia were marching from Amboy to New York*" and that 104 vessels had arrived, presumably carrying "*Foreign Troops*"
  
10. August 15, 1776 [582]  
Letter from James Burd at Tinian, his home on the Susquehanna River southeast of Harrisburg, to Atlee, Chair of the Lancaster Committee, concerning difficulties obtaining money to pay for commissary needs and related matters [microfilm too light and smudged to read easily] [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 70]
  
11. August 19, 1776 [594]  
Letter from William Cox at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning the privateer
  
12. August 21, 1776 [607]  
Pass signed by Atlee, Chair of the Lancaster Committee, allowing Sergeant [?] Sutherland of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment and prisoner of war at Lancaster, to go to Reading with a letter and accounts "*relative to that Regiment to be presented to General Prescott*" and then to return to Lancaster by August 24, 1776; including an additional pass, written at the bottom of the page, for Sutherland's return, dated August 22, 1776, signed by James Reed, Chairman of the [Reading] Committee [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 72]
  
13. August 30, 1776 [628]  
Copy of letter from Atlee, Chair of the Lancaster Committee, to John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, concerning the movement of Continental troops and the difficulty of delivering express communications [microfilm too light to read easily] [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 75]
  
14. September 2, 1776 [643]  
Letter from C Read, Secretary of the Reading Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning permission for a Lancaster prisoner Hamilton Harmon to go to Reading "*where his master Cap<sup>n</sup>. Swan is stationed*" and related business [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 6 document 80]

15. September 9, 1776 [655]  
Letter from members of the Township Committee of Paxton and from James Burd, at Middletown, to Atlee, chair of the Lancaster Committee, stating that Burd is sending to Lancaster prisoners William Chattam, and James Parker [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 6 document 83]
  
16. September 22, 1776 [689]  
Letter from Matthias Slough et al. to Atlee, agreeing to issue a pass for John Thomas of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment to go to Carlisle as a servant to Captain Campbell "*an officer prisoner* [?]" with seven signatures
  
17. September 23, 1776 [694]  
Report from Sergeant James Moore of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment, prisoner in Lancaster jail, to Atlee and the Lancaster Committee, promising in the future to stay out of trouble; thanking Atlee and his wife for former favors, and requesting consideration to allow him to work for Captain Gordon, who is coming soon from York [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 6 document 88]
  
18. October 10, 1776 [775]  
Letter from Atlee to John Cox, reporting having drawn large amounts [£3,000 and £1,000 respectively] to pay for prison operations in Lancaster
  
19. October 20, 1776 [787]  
Letter from Edward Thomps a prisoner at York, to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, requesting that his servant James McDonough be sent to him [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 6 document 90]
  
20. October 21, 1776 [792]  
Account from Jacob Barge to Messrs. Atlee and Lauman showing costs of sundries purchased and remaining balance

## Reel 7 (LC Reel 103)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 18 documents [Frames 1-276]  
**Volume 9/19** January 1, 1777 to March 31, 1777 12 documents [Frames 277-529]  
**Volume 9/20** April 1, 1777 to June 28, 1777 12 documents [Frames 530-770]

## Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 18 documents [Frames 1-276]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. November 4, 1776 [7]  
Financial account of William Augustus Atlee with John Cox, signed by attorney William Cox, showing Cox' payment of £352.14.4½ for "*his 1/16 part of the Brig privateer Gen<sup>l</sup>. Mifflin as she went to Sea*"  
[Note: Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
2. November 8, 1776 [19]  
Letter from Isaac McCamant to Atlee, stating that he will pay for transporting salt for Salzburg Township to Lancaster
3. November 9, 1776 [22]  
Letter from Samuel John Atlee (William's brother) [imprisoned] at New York [after having been captured on Long Island], to William Atlee, stating that he misses his family and wishes for a letter, money and other favors from them
4. November 9, 1776 [32]  
Letter from John Harris at Paxton Township to Atlee, concerning delivery of salt to Paxton Township, with bill for £122.6.0 for 478 bushels, including hogsheads, cooperage, and portorage
5. November 12, 1776 [39]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, forwarding copies of important intelligence received from Lancaster County battalion colonels, with list of 11 items [not microfilmed here] [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 4]
6. November 15, 1776 [48]  
Letter from John Jamison and Abraham Scott to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, requesting delivery of the salt allowance for Mount Joy Township [adjacent to Elizabethtown, northwest of Lancaster] [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 6]

7. November 16, 1776 [58]  
Letter from Gabriel Davis and Jonathan Roland at Earltown to Atlee, requesting delivery of "*the Salt that is Allowed for our Township*"  
[Note: The Index in Reel 1 lists two separate letters of the same date, one from Davis and one from Roland. Only one letter is microfilmed, from both Davis and Roland.]
8. November 19, 1776 [71]  
Letter from E. Bedille [or Biddle?] to Atlee, with a question for Atlee and his committee [the Lancaster Committee on Safety] concerning "*some Gentleman prisoners here, who by their unexceptionable Conduct have acquired the Good Will of the Inhabitants here*" but who need help with servants and services such as cutting wood; seeking advice on how to help them
9. November 20, 1776 [77]  
Letter from Jenning Forth[?] to Atlee as chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning delivery of salt due to Heidelberg Township
10. November 22, 1776 [94]  
Orders from Owen Biddle, Chairman of Pennsylvania Committee, to Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, to march Lancaster County prisoners of war to the fort at Elizabethtown instead of Fort Lee, New Jersey, since Fort Lee [across the Hudson River from upper Manhattan Island] had been evacuated [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 12]  
[Note: Elizabeth Town is today's Elizabeth, New Jersey. Hereafter, in this Reel, the place name Elizabeth refers to Elizabeth, New Jersey.]  
[Note: After Fort Lee fell and the British settled into New York as their military headquarters, **Elizabeth** became one of the most important locations for American incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, in New Jersey just across the harbor from New York. Elizabeth served as a primary conduit through which prisoners of war held by the British (in New York and Long Island) and held by the Americans (primarily in Philadelphia, Lancaster, Reading, York, Lebanon, and Easton, Pennsylvania plus, Winchester, Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland were transported on parole and to be exchanged).]
11. December 5, 1776 [130]  
Letter from Philip Greenwalt and John Thome of Lebanon Committee to Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, concerning the transport of baggage belonging to fugitive prisoners and payment for the transport [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 19]
12. December 7, 1776 [133]  
Letter from Francis Armstrong to Atlee as Committee Chairman, seeking, along with Samuel Scott, a pass for a journey by Robert McGee to travel to Albany to visit his father and brothers

13. December 13, 1776 [152]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Council of Safety to Atlee, concerning expected engagement with the British enemy; expecting active involvement by the Lancaster militia; procuring wagons to convey prisoners' baggage; signed by Thomas Wharton, Jr., President [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 22]
14. December 16, 1776 [155]  
Letter from the Lancaster Committee to Atlee, stating that he should "*continue to furnish the few Prisoners who were left sick at the Barracks & women & Children with Provisions as heretofore at the Expence of the Continent*" [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 23]
15. December 27, 1776 [180]  
Letter from James Burd at Tinian to Atlee, concerning the state of and movements of his battalion of militia in the Brandywine area; requesting that Mr. [probably Edward III] Shippen be allowed to peruse his letter  
[Note: Since the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, the Burd and Shippen families had been closely interrelated by marriage and through business and professional ties. The Shippen family was from Philadelphia, while the Burds came from Lancaster and Carlisle. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the families joined to establish the town of Shippensburg. Closely related to these two families were Yeates and Hubley families, whose names also appear in the Atlee Papers. The Burd-Shippen Family Collection of papers is housed in the Pennsylvania State Archives. The David Library owns the microfilmed collection. A finding aid on these papers can be found among the Swain Reports on the David Library's blogsite.]
16. December 31, 1776 [197]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning how to manage the transport to and maintenance at Lancaster of German soldiers captured on December 26 [microfilm too light to read easily]; followed by December 31, 1776  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, thanking the town for providing wagons to transport stores; curtailing transporting more stores "*as our arms by the blessings of God has been attended with an unexpected success, and opens a more happy prospect to the friends of America which makes it unnecessary to remove any more Stores*" [both letters microfilmed twice] [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 26]
17. [?] 1776 [253]  
Draft of letter, with corrections and deletions, from Atlee to "Unknown", concerning errors in following orders, with details
18. [?] 1776 [263]  
Letter from James Ewing to Atlee, concerning directions from Congress to enclose the barracks with a stockade

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

19. January 1, 1777 [279]  
Letter from Samuel John Atlee, brother of William Atlee, imprisoned at New York after having been captured on Long Island, to William Atlee, wishing for a letter from his family and his release  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
20. January 1, 1777 [283]  
Receipt from Peter Bollinger to Atlee, for payment of £4 for "*measuring out the publick Salt in Lancaster*"
21. January 1, 1777 [294]  
Receipt from Jacob Weaver to Atlee, for payment of 12 shillings six pence for work respecting the salt
22. January 21, 1777 [356]  
Letter from the Continental Board of War at Baltimore to the Lancaster Committee of Safety, ordering them to accept Scotch prisoners under the charge of Major Campbell; signed by Joseph Nourse, clerk of the Board of War, including a list by rank of 39 prisoners plus 3 women and 3 children [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 40, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 6]
23. January [?], 1777 [407]  
Letter from Samuel Atlee to William Atlee, still imprisoned and hoping for release
24. February 1, 1777 [424]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee at Philadelphia to Atlee as Chairman of Lancaster Committee, requesting that Atlee send to them an accounting of what money he has paid to militia officers as pay for troops, along with receipts; signed by Thomas Wharton Jr., President [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 44]
25. February 11, 1777 [447]  
Letter from Thomas Hartley at York to Atlee, concerning musicians among the prisoners of the Americans; advocating for separating musician prisoners and other soldier prisoners; favoring establishment of a "Board of Musick"

26. February 24, 1777 [479]  
Letter from Samuel Atlee to William Atlee, notifying William that he and other prisoners had been sent from New York to an unknown island, where they billeted among farmers with a "low Dutch Ministry"; still expressing hope for release
  
27. March 3, 1777 [493]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that since the Lancaster barracks "*are rather Crowded...such of the Hessian Prisoners as can be usefully employd may be enlarged by you*", if they work and stay with such "*persons in your County as you can confide in to keep them comfortable and safe*"; requesting that returns of the names of prisoners so employed be sent to the Philadelphia Committee [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 49]
  
28. March 4, 1777 [500]  
Letter from William Moore, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Committee, to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating the Pennsylvania Committee's approval for qualified prisoners to work in the wire mill owned by James Brindley & Company, since "*this work will be of public utility*" [listed also in Committee Papers Reel 7, document 50]
  
29. March 17, 1777 [507]  
Letter from John Thorne at Lebanon to Atlee, concerning payment requested by those "*appointed to take Care and provide for the distressed Families of poor association in these parts called into actual Serviced & unable to maintain themselves*"
  
30. March 18, 1777 [510]  
Letter from Mease Haldwell at Philadelphia to Atlee, responding positively to a request by Atlee that tailors in Lancaster receive some of the business in making uniforms for American troops; stating that "*We have constantly endeavour'd to draw a part of the Supplies Necessary for the Army from your Place*"; stating that he had previously had "*the Assistance of Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Lauman & Hubley*"

**Volume 9/20** April 1, 1777 to June 28, 1777      12 documents      [Frames 530-770]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

31. April 2, 1777 [536]  
Letter from Major [?] Gordon to William Augustus Atlee, wishing him well on a journey and stating that he “*will take care that W. Ryland gives his Parole*”  
[Note: Hereafter, “Atlee” refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
32. April 2, 1777 [538]  
Memorial from the Lancaster Committee of Safety to Atlee, stating that “*We agree that you give Order to Capt. Weaver to let Patrick Gordon go out of the guard House for he is represented to be very lousy & unwell to work with Lewis Peters & George Lindeberger on their agreeing to produce him when called for by Mr. Cross or the official who confined him, no crime being alleged against him as Capt. Weaver says*”; signed by 7 individuals [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 55]
33. April 3, 1777 [543]  
Letter from Owen Biddle, Chairman of the Board of War, to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that, “*as we have every reason to believe the Enemy intend a Visit to this City*”, the Board of War has requested that wagons be acquired to move “*considerable quantity of valuable Stores at Philadelphia*” [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 57]
34. April 14, 1777 [568]  
Letter from William Patterson at Lancaster to Atlee, regarding having made a new bargain with John Cox concerning rent on a house and lots in Lancaster, and declaring a previous bargain with Atlee to be void
35. April 16, 1777 [574]  
Letter from Lewis Nicola, Town Mayor of Philadelphia, to Lancaster Committee, stating that, as ordered by the Board of War, he is sending to Lancaster 105 British prisoners “*tomorrow*” and “*about the same number next day*” [see document 37 for list of probably these prisoners] [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 59, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 10]
36. April 17, 1777 [577]  
Letter from Owen Biddle, Chairman of the Board of War, to Atlee as Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that, as ordered by the Board of War, “*a number of Prisoners of War made at different times*” will be sent over two days to Lancaster [presumably the same prisoners as mentioned in document 35] [see document 37 for list of probably these prisoners] [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 60, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 11]
37. April 18, 1777 [581]  
“*List of Prisoners Sent from the State Prison Philadelphia*” [probably the prisoners mentioned in documents 35 and 36] [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 61, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 12]



38. May 1, 1777 [622]  
Letter from Samuel John Atlee, still a prisoner on Long Island, to William Atlee, still in "*good health*" but frustrated at not being able to get released
39. May 14, 1777 [647]  
Letter from Surgeon [?] Menzies to Atlee, seeking a pass to come and speak with Atlee "*either tonight or tomorrow morning*"
40. May 15, 1777 [650]  
Statement from Atlee certifying that Christian Wirtz has been appointed commissary responsible "*to supply the Militia who on their way through Lancaster might be lodged in the Barrack with the Ration allowed by Congress*"; noting that Mr. Winty also assisted in billeting militia and other troops passing through Lancaster
41. May 27, 1777 [670]  
Letter from Charles Lukens at Carlisle to Atlee, stating that he has allowed a German prisoner, Sergeant Tidmer "*one of those allowed to Come to this Place to work*", to travel for 10 days to Lancaster to do business with his unit's "*Quarter or Paymaster*"; wishing to know of any improprieties resulting from this permission
42. June 17, 1777 [740]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Safety Council to Atlee, ordering that Joseph Richardson, who had been confined for four months in the Lancaster county jail for counterfeiting, with no judicial action, be allowed to post bail

## Reel 8 (LC Reel 104)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/21** July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777 20 documents [Frames 1-203]  
**Volume 9/22** October 1, 1777 to December 24, 1777 22 documents [Frames 204-477]  
**Volume 9/23** January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778 12 documents [Frames 478-678]  
**Volume 9/24** (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 17 documents [Frames 679-866]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/21** July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777 20 documents [Frames 1-203]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. August 11, 1777 [52]  
Letter from Commissary General of Prisoners Colonel Elias Boudinot, at Philadelphia, to Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, William Augustus Atlee, concerning matters of paying the costs of and managing the incarceration of British prisoners in Lancaster and elsewhere, with instructions and observations [copy in Boudinot's letterbook, Wisconsin Historical Society, document 39]  
[Note: **Elias Boudinot** (1740-1821), a Philadelphian and friend of Benjamin Franklin, had been appointed in May 1777 by General Washington to oversee American prisoner-of-war affairs. His appointment included a commission as colonel in the Continental Army. Before this time, the various colonies, including Pennsylvania, had dealt with prisoners of war on their own, in their own ways. Until the battles of Trenton and Princeton, in late 1776 and early 1777, few prisoners of war had been captured in the middle colonies. By early 1777, the Continental Congress and Washington's Continental Army began to respond to the growing need for places to incarcerate, feed, and otherwise manage large numbers of prisoners. Through the Lancaster Committee on Safety, attorney **William Augustus Atlee** had become involved in many issues, among them prisoners of war. Sometime in 1776, he was appointed to be Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster.]  
[Note: Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]  
[Note: At **Lancaster**, Atlee was taking charge of what was, in mid-1776, the largest prison center for prisoners of war held by the Americans (just months before American victories at Trenton and Princeton yielded a large influx of British and German prisoners of war). After Philadelphia was recaptured from the British in June 1778, that city's New Jail became a second major prisoner center.]
2. August 29, 1777 [91]  
Letter from Colonel Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading to Atlee, concerning military and prisoner matters  
[Note: Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Reading** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Easton. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. A German immigrant (originally Heinrich), **Colonel Henry Haller** (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 to August 1782.]
3. September 6, 1777 [98]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Atlee at Lebanon, concerning the movement of prisoners and other prison and jail matters

4. September 6, 1777 [102]  
Letter from Richard Peters, Secretary at the War Office [administrative arm of the Board of War], to Atlee, concerning the need for guards at Lancaster and Northampton, building of barracks at Lebanon, location of other prisoners at Bethlehem and York  
[Note: The **War Office** was the administrative arm of the Board of War, for which its employees worked.]  
[Note: By now, Lancaster had its barracks and was now in need of guards. No evidence in the documents reviewed in this Finding Aid suggests that prisoner-of-war barracks were built in Lebanon, Bethlehem, or York.]
5. September 8, 1777 [106]  
Copy of letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot, concerning German prisoners at Lebanon and the availability of space to house prisoners in various places
6. September 14, 1777 [125]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Atlee, concerning making copies of certain orders for the placement of prisoners
7. September 15, 1777 [128]  
Letter from Colonel Thomas Hartley at Camp Lancaster, "*near the Sorrel Horse*" to Atlee and Paul Zantzinger at Lancaster, reporting the results of recent military action [at Brandywine] [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]  
[Note: **Thomas Hartley** (1748-1800) lived in York, Pennsylvania. Early in the Revolutionary War, he was second in command of the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment. Early in 1777, he organized a separate "Hartley's Regiment," which he commanded in battles including Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown. He appears to have been personal friends of both Atlee and Zantzinger. **William Augustus Atlee** was an attorney and active patriot leader in Lancaster, serving on committees and acting as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster. See the Atlee papers in Series 9 of the Peter Force Collection. **Paul Zantzinger** (1744-1817) served for a time as a revenue collector but otherwise was not as prominent a public figure in Lancaster as Atlee.]  
[Note: What became known as the **Battle of Brandywine** was fought on September 11, 1777. The **Battle of Paoli** was fought during the night of September 20-21. The **Battle of Germantown** was fought on October 4, after British General William Howe's troops had already occupied Philadelphia unopposed on September 26.]

[**Note:** Scattered between documents 7 and 38 is found a series of letters **Colonel Thomas Hartley** wrote from moving Continental Army camps, dated from September 15 through December 17, 1777, to his friends William Atlee and Paul Zantzinger in Lancaster. These letters contain personal perceptions and observations about the Continental Army's military actions at Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown. He fought in the early December Battle of White Marsh as well but did not write descriptively about this "action." **Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr.**, Hartley's good friend, wrote a similar series of letters during the time of the three battles (scattered between documents 8 and 25, dated from September 15 through October 9, 1777). These were addressed to Atlee, Zantzinger, and also to Adam's brother, John Hubley. As noted for particular documents in Series 9, transcripts of some of these letters are found in the Peter Force Collection, Series 7E Item 69 (Frames 650-663).]

8. September 15, 1777 [131]  
 Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr. at Camp Lancaster to Atlee and Zantzinger, reporting on successful military action that took place on September 11; commenting on the effectiveness of different militia units [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]  
**[Note: Adam Hubley Jr. (1759-1798) served in the Continental Army throughout the Revolutionary War. Through most of the war, he was attached to the 10<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment. Between September and December 1777, he fought at Brandywine (on September 11), Paoli, Germantown, and White Marsh, before enduring the winter encampment at Valley Forge from December 1777 to June 1778.]**
9. September 17, 1777 [140]  
 Letter from Hartley in camp to Atlee and Zantzinger, reporting that the two armies *"have been maneuvering these two Days—you will soon hear of Something of Consequence"*; and that *"We had Yesterday one of the hardest Marches known by any Soldiers in our army"*
10. September 18, 1777 [143]  
 Letter from Hartley at *"Camp three miles from the Red Lion, Chester County"*, to Atlee and Zantzinger, reporting on the military action in and around Brandywine; stating that *"The Day is approaching when, if we are successful American Liberty will stand fair to be established if the contrary a long war will be intailed upon us—God bless our operations, & put an End to all our Trouble. The Enemy are in full March to Philad<sup>a</sup> we shall march after them in a few Minutes."* [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
11. September 19, 1777 [147]  
 Letter from Zantzinger to Atlee at Lebanon, adding additional information to Hartley's letter [document 10]

12. September 21, 1777 [158]  
 Letter from Hartley at Camp Red Lion to Atlee and Zantzinger, reporting on a great battle the previous night in which "*The Carnage was very great*" on both sides, nevertheless stating that "*General Washingtons Army is in a good Disposition & his Men in Spirits*" [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
  
13. September 21, 1777 [161]  
 Letter from Hubley to Atlee et al., reporting on his personal experience in the engagement of the night of September 20, stating that "*In this affair I was remarkably lucky. About the Middle of the Engagement, I unfortunately fell in the Hands, of some of the British Troops...When they took me, I damn'd them for a parcel of Scoundrals, and ask'd them what they meant by taking one of their own Officers, upon which the light Horse-man beg'd my pardon, and I desir'd him to follow on...until I Got him amongst a party of our men, I then ordered him to surrender, which he refus'd & said he belong'd to our own people...I then ordered him to be shot which was instantly done, and I brought off his Horse, accoutrements, &c. I was closely pursued but luckily got off safe*" [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
  
14. September 23, 1777 [164]  
 Letter from Hartley at Camp Jones' Tavern in Conestoga Township, Lancaster County, to Atlee and Zantzinger, stating that "*I fear Philad.<sup>a</sup> will be in the Enemy's Possession this night or to morrow*" [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
  
15. September 23, 1777 [168]  
 Letter from Hubley at "*Camp at Jones Tavern*" to Atlee et al., reporting more on the engagement, including the statement that "*The greatest Cruelty was shown on the side of the Enemy I with my own Eyes, saw them...*" [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
  
16. September 25, 1777 [172]  
 Letter from Haller at Reading to Atlee, concerning the movement of British prisoners [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
  
17. September 26, 1777 [176]  
 Letter from Hartley to Atlee, bemoaning the British victory and American loss; tending to blame the Americans for their own loss, stating "*all things to us weak mortals were in our Power*"; but stating optimism that "*The whole army [can] begin to regain what has been lost, and drive the Invaders from this Country*"
  
18. September 26, 1777 [180]  
 Letter from Adam Hubley at camp to Atlee, Zantzinger, and John Hubley, concerning the results of the recent engagements [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]

19. September 27, 1777 [183]  
Letter from Adam Hubley at Camp Jones' Tavern to Atlee, Zantzinger, and John Hubley, stating that the British have crossed the Schuylkill River and "*that very little resistance was made by his Excellency*"
20. September 29, 1777 [188]  
Letter from Hartley in camp to Atlee and Zantzinger, expecting an imminent attack by the British; asking that paper and sealing wax be sent; sending compliments to friends

**Volume 9/22** October 1, 1777 to December 24, 1777 22 documents [Frames 204-477]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

21. October 4, 1777 [220]  
Letter from Richard Peters, Secretary at the War Office [administrative arm of the Board of War], to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, at Lancaster, concerning military matters, including a privateer  
[**Note:** Between late September 1777 and late June 1778, while the British occupied Philadelphia, the capital of the fledgling United States government and its Continental Congress moved west to York, not far from Lancaster. Although the Atlee Papers do not reveal any significant change in the role Lancaster played during this time, it found itself, for a brief period, near the center of American political and administrative activity.]
22. October 6, 1777 [229]  
Letter from Colonel Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, to Atlee, concerning delivery of some prisoners
23. October 7, 1777 [235]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Atlee, sending to Lancaster "*5 Gentlemen with 6 servants*", these being "*the last of the British prisoners coming from Northampton County*"
24. October 8, 1777 [238]  
Note by Atlee and list of the "*British Officers &c. brought to Lancaster from Reading*", including names and ranks; stating that they were sent on to York under parole [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 18]

25. October 9, 1777 [244]  
Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr. [of the 10<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment] at Towamensin Township, Montgomery County, to Atlee and Paul Zantzinger, both at Lancaster, describing in detail "*the late Action at Germantown*", in which he felt the American troops had not performed well, an engagement which he concludes "*I think may justly be call'd a Tragick Comedy*" [transcript in Series 7E, Item 69 (Frames 650-663)]
26. October 18, 1777 [317]  
Letter from Colonel Thomas Hartley to Atlee and Zantzinger, concerning the movements of troops around the area of Germantown
27. October 20, 1777 [319]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Atlee, notifying Atlee that 33 British and 4 German prisoners are being delivered to Lancaster
28. October 24, 1777 [334]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Atlee, concerning the movement of prisoners, including some at Easton
29. October 24, 1777 [339]  
Letter from Hartley at camp to Atlee and Zantzinger, describing military life between engagements, including hearing a huge explosion and worrying that it might be the magazine at the fort; stating that "*If there was a true Hint of Liberty in this State, the Army under Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe would be in a more dangerous Situation than Burgoyne ever was*"
30. October 25, 1777 [342]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Atlee, requesting that Atlee "*Please to let John Morris Esq<sup>r</sup> have a Hessian Pris<sup>r</sup> as a Servant, he being responsible in the usual way for his appearance when called for*"
31. October 30, 1777 [346]  
Letter from Hartley at Camp White Marsh to Atlee and Zantzinger, passing on reports that the British have occupied Philadelphia; commenting on the military situation
32. November 3, 1777 [353]  
Letter from Hartley to Atlee and Zantzinger, commenting further on the military situation with the British in Philadelphia
33. November 14, 1777 [356]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Atlee, concerning prisoner matters

34. December 3, 1777 [371]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Atlee, concerning the parole and movement of prisoners to Lancaster
35. December 7, 1777 [374]  
Letter from the Chevalier D'Anterroches at Morristown to Atlee, stating that he will be coming to Lancaster [as a prisoner, although he does not state that], wishing to see Atlee there, and wishing to acquaint him about some of his acquaintances, including the Marquis de Lafayette  
**[Note: Louis Joseph D'Anterroches (1753-1814) was a French citizen from an aristocratic family and a distant cousin of Lafayette. In 1775, he ran away from home in France to London, where he volunteered for a military career in the British Army. Commissioned as an ensign at age 23 in 1776, his 62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment was assigned to Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's ill-fated army that surrendered to the American army at Saratoga, following defeat of the British on October 7, 1777. D'Anterroches was captured on September 19, during the first of the two bloody engagements at Saratoga, called the Battle of Freeman's Farm. Despite seeking assistance from his kinsman Lafayette, he seems to have remained a prisoner of war until December 1779, when he was released on parole to New York, pending a possible exchange. By 1780 he had been exchanged, after which, he married and remained in America. In this letter, he appears to be trying to "pull strings" with Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Atlee to gain some favor toward obtaining parole. See also the Bradford Papers, Reel 6 document 436.]**
36. December 9, 1777 [381]  
Letter from Hartley at Camp White Marsh to Atlee, reporting some snow; expecting a "*general engagement*", however, General Howe had retreated back into Philadelphia; other military news  
**[Note: General Washington had hoped to entice General Howe in a major early-winter engagement, but Howe was not to be enticed. Ten days after the date of this letter, as winter closed in, the Continental Army moved from White Marsh (now suburban Whitemarsh Township northwest of Philadelphia) to Valley Forge (more distant from Philadelphia), where they endured until spring.]**
37. December 11, 1777 [395]  
Notification from Joseph Nourse, Clerk of the Board of War ordering Atlee to deliver clothing and other articles "*left in Lancaster by several British Officers who have absconded from their Parole*" to be used by other American officers as needed



38. December 17, 1777 [402]  
Letter from Hartley in camp at [?] Gulf to Atlee, offering military news and describing the difficulties of the Continental Army's winter quarters, "*If our Men can support the Fatigue and Exposure, all may be well—but unless there be a notable Exertion in the Country to procure cloathing & make the Men comfortable I fear the Consequences*"; explaining how several American officers had gained access to Philadelphia, one "*by personating a British officer*" and another who, by dressing "*in the Cloathes of a Quaker Girl, he obtained a pass and papers*"
39. December 22, 1777 [date in index and on folder is December 23] [410]  
Letter from Nourse to Atlee, concerning actions of Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot's actions in relation to prisoners' "lost" clothing and that Atlee "*might [also] avail yourself of the [clothing]*"
40. December 23, 1777 [413]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Atlee, concerning the clothing and other effects of the prisoner officers
41. December 24, 1777 [416]  
Letter from Boudinot at Lancaster to Atlee, ordering him "*not to suffer any Prisoner to go out to work for any Person whatever, in Consequence of any Orders heretofore issued by the Board of War, or any other Authority*"
42. [?] 1777 [455]  
Memorandum and list from Robert Campbell to Atlee, identified as a "*Memorandum of Cloathing and other Articles Left In the last Summer Campaign before and Since My Captivity in the year 1777*"

**Volume 9/23** January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778 12 documents [Frames 478-678]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

43. January 2, 1778 [481]  
Letter from Samuel John Atlee a prisoner of the British on Long Island, to his brother William Augustus Atlee, describing his hard life as a prisoner, sending regards to family and friends, and asking favors [microfilmed in vertical strips not arranged in reading order]  
**[Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

44. January 7, 1778 [492]  
Letter from Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot to Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Atlee, concerning provisions for prisoners, an update on military news; enclosing a "*List of Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners of War*", including Joshua Mersereau Massachusetts, Ezekiel Williams Connecticut, Daniel Hale Albany, John Adam Fishkill, Robert Hooper Easton, Henry Haller Reading, William Atlee Lancaster, Thomas Peters York, and Joseph Holmes Winchester  
**[Note:** Correspondence to, from, or about all of these is included in the documents included in this Finding Aid. Daniel Hale at Albany is appears only on prisoner-of-war returns in the Gates Papers in relation to prisoners of war following British Lieutenant General Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga. Following the battle, Albany briefly became the center for post-battle operations. John Adam was only briefly at Fishkill before being reassigned to Elizabeth, New Jersey. Other Deputy Commissaries not listed here include Joshua Mersereau's brother John Mersereau (at least briefly at Elizabeth), Abraham Skinner (at Goshen, New York in 1779 and then Elizabeth and "Headquarters," before becoming Commissary General in 1780), and Thomas Bradford (assigned first to "Camp" and then, in 1778, to Philadelphia).]
45. February 3, 1778 [575]  
Letter from Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, to Atlee, concerning the movement of prisoners, including about 30 from Easton; requesting that Atlee assist the gentleman bearer of this letter, once a prisoner of war himself, to see another gentleman prisoner in Lancaster, whom he may know
46. February 10, 1778 [591]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Isaac Melcher [at the War Office?], concerning moving German prisoners from Lebanon and moving them "*to some place of equal safety*", which he believes to be Middletown, Pennsylvania [northwest of Lancaster toward Harrisburg]
47. February 10, 1778 [594]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to M. Stone at Lebanon, concerning the moving of prisoners of war from Lebanon to Middletown
48. February 17, 1778 [597]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Camp", at Downingtown [west of Valley Forge on the road to Lancaster], to Atlee, sending him seven prisoners of war, including a list of the prisoners by name, with additional information [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 29]  
**[Note:** Bradford's name was often misspelled "Brandford" in these papers.]  
**[Note:** "Camp" refers to the place where the Continental Army was camped at a particular time. Not all prisoners handled by Bradford were prisoners of war. For example, see document 50.]

**[Note: Thomas Bradford (1745-1838),** was appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners by the Continental Congress on January 17, 1778, serving under Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot (from May 1777 to May 1778), John Beatty (from May 1778 to May 1780) and Abraham Skinner (September 1780 until August 1782). Thomas came from an old and prominent Philadelphia family, whose father, William Bradford (1721-1791) was an influential printer and publisher beginning in the 1740s. Later in life, he became actively involved in the Pennsylvania Militia during the Revolutionary War. Thomas' brother, William Bradford (1755-1795), was an attorney in Philadelphia and served as Deputy Muster General during the war. Later, he served as Pennsylvania Attorney General from 1780 to 1791 and as U.S. Attorney General from 1794 to 1795. From 1791 to 1794, he was a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice. William married Susan Boudinot, daughter of Elias Boudinot. When the elder William Bradford died in 1791, Thomas took over ownership and operation of the family printing and publishing business.

Once the British evacuated **Philadelphia** in June 1778, Bradford was assigned to supervise the prisoner-of-war operations in that city, at the so-called **New Jail**, which, with the Lancaster prison supervised by Atlee, became the two large and important prison centers in the network of places where the Americans incarcerated British and German prisoners of war.]

49. March 2, 1778 [613]  
Letter from James Byrd to Atlee, conveying request from the Continental Congress committee accounting for arms and their costs for Pennsylvania to forward an "*Appraisalment of the Guns applied to the public use for Col.<sup>o</sup> James Burd's Battalion in Paxton Township Lancaster County*"
50. March 5, 1778 [625]  
Letter from Bradford at "camp" to Atlee, delivering two prisoners "*confined for passing counterfeit money*" along with a list of the status of additional prisoners [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 30]
51. March 12, 1778 [636]  
Letter from Atlee and Pennsylvania Chief Justice Thomas McKean at Lancaster to the Sheriff of York County, requiring that he arrest and bring to Lancaster three members of a Yoner family, residents of York County, to be examined as part of an investigation  
**[Note: Thomas McKean (1734-1817)** was a lawyer and politician born in Pennsylvania and lived in New Castle, Delaware and Philadelphia. During the Revolutionary period, he served as Pennsylvania's Chief Justice from 1777 to 1799. He also represented Delaware in the Continental Congress from 1777 to 1783, signed the Declaration of Independence, and was President of the Congress in 1781.]

52. March 15, 1778 [639]  
Two letters from William Smallwood, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Wilmington, to Atlee, concerning the movement of 40 prisoners to Lancaster; enclosing a list [perhaps document 54 despite the date discrepancy] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 32]  
[**Note:** Wilmington and Smallwood are found in only four documents in this Finding Aid, dated between March and June 1778. All are in the Atlee Papers in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts in the Library of Congress), DLAR microfilm Reel 8, documents 52, 54, 55, and 68). The reason appears to be that **Wilmington** did not house a prison for prisoners of war. Rather, **Brigadier General William Smallwood** (1732-1792) and his Continental Army troops were operating in the area, harassing the British after they had occupied Philadelphia in September 1777. In the first half of 1778, Smallwood was busy capturing prisoners and sending them from his base at Wilmington to Lancaster. Why he was given the title of deputy commissary of prisoners at Wilmington is not clear. Smallwood was a planter, soldier, and politician from Maryland. He spent 1776 to 1780 on active duty in battles from White Plains to Camden.]
53. March 17, 1778 [645]  
Letter from Andrew Buchanan at Hanover [between York and Gettysburg] to Atlee, informing him about "*the Parole of the Brittish & Hessian Officers for coming from Fredericksburg & Dumfries in Virginia to Lancaster in order to be delivered to your Care*"
54. March 17, 1778 [648]  
List of 41 prisoners of war, possibly those being sent from Wilmington to Lancaster [see document 52] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 33]

**Volume 9/24** (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 17 documents [Frames 679-866]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

55. April 4, 1778 [684]  
William Smallwood Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Wilmington to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, sending 35 prisoners of war to Lancaster, including a list of the prisoners by name [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 34]  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

56. April 13, 1778 [706]  
Letter from Thomas Peters, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at York to Atlee, reporting having sent three British officer prisoners to Allentown, which might be a problem because of a resolve of Congress just received  
[Note: Besides Philadelphia and Lancaster, **York** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities (in this case the county jail) to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included Easton and Reading. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. **Thomas Peters** served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at York. York apparently had a smaller prison (the county jail), and the correspondence suggests that Atlee at Lancaster may have at least helped to operate it.]
57. April 19, 1778 [714]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, at "Camp", to Atlee, sending him 20 prisoners, with list enclosed [document 58] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 35]
58. April 19, 1778 [716]  
List of 20 prisoners of war sent to Lancaster; enclosed with Bradford's April 19, 1778 letter to Atlee [document 57] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 36]
59. April 20, 1778 [719]  
Letter from Boudinot, at camp, to Atlee, complaining of being "*Up to my Eyes in Papers*"; concerning parole of a prisoner named Dilworth
60. April 22, 1778 [722]  
Personal letter from William Atlee at York to his wife Esther "*Hetty*" Atlee
61. April 23, 1778 [725]  
Personal from William Atlee at York to Esther Atlee
62. May 9, 1778 [754]  
List of prisoners at Lancaster, with descriptions and status, compiled by Atlee [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 38]
63. May 13, 1778 [765]  
Letter from Peters at War Office to Atlee, stating that "*it is not altogether improbable that an Exchange of Prisoners may soon take place*" and ordering Atlee to ensure that all his prisoners are under sufficient guard and that a place be found for a temporary hospital

64. May 14, 1778 [768]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Peters, responding to Peters' May 13, 1778 letter [document 63], stating that he will seek to comply with the orders by contacting the commanding officer at Lancaster
65. May 14, 1778 [770]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Timothy Pickering Jr. at the War Office in York, concerning prisoners to be sent from Lancaster to York as part of a prisoner exchange, except for some unwell prisoners to be detained in the hospital
66. May 14, 1778 [773]  
Letter from Pickering to Atlee stating that the prisoners at Lancaster should now be sent to Fort Frederick; commenting on the recent "*elopement*" of some British officer prisoners from imprisonment at Lancaster and that requested additional guards had not yet been provided  
[Note: Fort Frederick was located at **Frederick**, Maryland, just over the Pennsylvania border, southwest of Lancaster. Besides major prisoner of war facilities at Lancaster and Philadelphia (after June 1778), Frederick was one among several other locations where British and German prisoners of war were incarcerated, including Easton, Reading, York, and Lebanon in Pennsylvania, as well as Winchester, Virginia, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. The deputy commissary of prisoners who supervised at Frederick was **Colonel Joseph Holmes** (1746-1806), a merchant from Winchester, whose title was Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia. Besides Frederick, he also supervised temporary stays of prisoners of war at Fredericksburg and the large prison operation at Winchester.]
67. May 24, 1778 [801]  
Letter from Bradford at camp to Atlee, sending to Lancaster nine prisoners, listed by name [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 8 document 43]
68. June 2, 1778 [823]  
Letter from Smallwood "*near Chads Ford, Pennsborough Township*" to Atlee, stating that 17 prisoners of war are being sent to Lancaster
69. June 5, 1778 [836]  
Letter from Thomas McKean at York to Atlee, concerning General Pulaski's "*enlisting Prisoners of war*", which the War Board had approved but which, McKean states, is not legalized by an act of Congress; concerning legal handling of prisoners of war accused of being traitors

70. June 5, 1778 [840]  
 Letter from Pickering at War Office to Atlee, stating that, in general, prisoners of war "*should not be inlisted into any corps in the Service of the United States*", and Pulaski's permission to do so "*is to be considered as recalled*"; stating that "*Col<sup>o</sup> Gibson informs us that the barracks at Lancaster are clear & ready for the reception of the Hessian prisoners. We are aware of some inconveniences that will result from collecting and confining them here, particularly in regard to provisions*" but still wishing for all the Germans to be collected there "*without loss of time*"
71. June 8, 1778 [844]  
 Letter from Pickering at War Office to Atlee, conveying an order of the Board of War that Atlee send three German prisoners to York "*to tend the horses in the public Stables at this place*"

## Reel 9 (LC Reel 105)

### Summary Contents:

|                            |                                     |              |                  |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/24</b> (end)   | June 10, 1778 to June 30, 1778      | 4 documents  | [Frames 1-49]    |
| <b>Volume 9/25</b>         | July 7, 1778 to December 12, 1778   | 9 documents  | [Frames 50-341]  |
| <b>Volume 9/26</b>         | January 6, 1779 to October 25, 1779 | 11 documents | [Frames 342-661] |
| <b>Volume 9/27</b> (begin) | Nov. 4, 1779 to Jan. 12, 1780       | 10 documents | [Frames 662-803] |

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

|                          |                                |             |               |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Volume 9/24</b> (end) | June 10, 1778 to June 30, 1778 | 4 documents | [Frames 1-49] |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. June 18, 1778 [28]  
 Letter from William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, to Captain Michael Opp, instructing Opp to take certain "*Hessian & Waldeck & British Prisoners of War...down to the Enemies Lines for exchange*", with instructions on how to make the exchange properly  
**[Note:** Waldeck was a separate principality nearby Hesse, the name associated with the Hessians, who actually came from a number of German principalities.]

2. June 22, 1778
[33]

Letter from Joseph Nourse, clerk to the War and Ordnance Office, to Atlee, requesting that Atlee retain “*the Hessian Prenten with M<sup>r</sup>. Baily of Lancaster...on his taking the Oath of Allegiance*”
3. June 30, 1778
[39]

Letter from Colonel John Beatty, at army headquarters at Englishtown [in Monmouth County, New Jersey] to Atlee, informing him that [General Washington?] “*request that all the Prisoners, British as well as Foreigners, in the state of Pens<sup>a</sup>. Should be Exchanged as far as may be*”; requesting a list of those prisoners under Atlee’s control; offering additional instructions  
**[Note:** Beatty succeeded Elias Boudinot as Commissary General of Prisoners in May 1778.]
4. June 30, 1778
[43]

Letter from John Cox, a business and personal friend, to Atlee, reporting about an engagement between the two armies on June 28 [the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse], during which the British lost ground and retreated toward Middletown, New Jersey [and New York]

**Volume 9/25** July 7, 1778 to December 12, 1778      9 documents      [Frames 50-341]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

5. July 7, 1778
[52]

Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania and member of the Continental Congress from Delaware, to William Augustus Atlee, describing the celebration at the State House of the nation’s third anniversary of independence; describing his legal work for Pennsylvania state government documenting “*the surrender of the persons proclaimed, and writing recognizances of bail*” and other duties; reporting that “*Generals Conway and Cadwalader fought a duel on Saturday on the common, as ‘tis said, when the former was shot in the cheek bone and fell the first fire—the wound is said not to be dangerous, and I know nothing of it but by common report*”; enclosing an account of the battle fought on the June 28 near Monmouth; reporting that “*General Lee’s sentence is not yet known*”; reporting, about the battle, that “*The Army did well, but had some officers done their duty, it would have terminated in a compleat victory*”  
**[Note:** Hereafter, “Atlee” refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]



[**Note:** The State House referred to may be the State House in Philadelphia, now part of Independence Hall. During this transitional time, York, Pennsylvania had served as U.S. capital until June 2, 1778, while the British occupied Philadelphia. On July 2, 1778, the capital was moved back to Philadelphia but was housed until July 27 in College Hall before returning to the State House. During the same period, Pennsylvania State government was conducted from the Lancaster County Court House. The State Assembly did not reconvene in Philadelphia until August 7, 1778.]

6. July 27, 1778 [106]  
Letter from James Jacks at Manor Township [in Lancaster County] to Atlee, reporting that he and the sheriff had followed Atlee's instructions to interrogate Martin Tunks, Christian Hare, and Christian Bauchman "*but the fellow[s?] was gone off (as they say) some time ago*"; reporting having questioned others but "*we could get nothing out of them*"; containing other details
7. August 1, 1778 [118]  
Letter from Elias Boudinot, New Jersey representative in the Second Continental Congress, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, reporting that all are anxiously awaiting news of American General John Sullivan's and French Jean Baptiste Charles Henri Hector, Comte d'Estaing's joint army and navy attacks on Rhode Island; with a postscript "*P.S. I broke open this in order to congratulate you on your Brothers Exchange, which is perfected & he is now a free man—Remember me to him and wish him Joy*"  
[**Note:** Elias Boudinot had served as Commissary General of Prisoners since May 1777 and had thus been Atlee's boss. In May 1778 he resigned, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also for reasons of ill health  
[**Note:** William's brother **Samuel John Atlee** (1739-1786) had been captured at the Battle of Long Island in August 1776 and had been incarcerated since then as a prisoner of war at various locations, mostly on Long Island.]
8. September 16, 1778 [205]  
Letter from William Atlee at Chester, to his wife Esther Atlee, stating that he forgot to take with him three packets of "*hard money*" "*which I received from the British officers who were sent in to Philadelphia & which I must pay to the Board of Warr*"; requesting that she send them to him
9. September 21, 1778 [226]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to Esther Atlee, reported having received the three packets of cash "*all right*"; commenting on personal matters, including possible purchase of a house; stating that a French vessel is supposed to be in Chesapeake Bay delivering much needed goods, including some worsted fabric she wants him to buy; wishing he were closer to her as he has news that will distress her, the "*loss of a much loved only Parent*", her father

10. October 7, 1778 [245]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to William Atlee, expressing her affection for her husband; writing about other personal matters
11. October 15, 1778 [258]  
Three financial receipts for \$97, \$114, and \$49 respectively, from W. Joseph Simons to Atlee, all related to "*the allowance from Congress*" and all delivered to Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Thomas Bradford in Philadelphia on order of Commissary General of Prisoners, Colonel John Beatty
12. November 20, 1778 [291]  
Cover letter from Atlee to Christian Wirtz, Town Mayor of Lancaster, forwarding information from Beatty and Bradford on the victualing allowance for prisoners of war, with a statement from Beatty that "*This is the allowance given out Prisoners, now with the Enemy—and you are to require it strictly to be complied with—if Fresh Beef is issued, it must be at  $\frac{2}{3}^d$ . allowance*"
13. [?] 1778 [320]  
Letter from Atlee to [?], concerning an appointment for the letter's recipient, apparently a mutual friend of his and James Burd's; including other personal matters

**Volume 9/26** January 6, 1779 to October 25, 1779 11 documents [Frames 342-661]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

14. May 10, 1779 [479]  
Letter from William Augustus Atlee at Reading to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters
15. May 15, 1779 [495]  
Letter from William Atlee at Bethlehem to Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

16. July 22, 1779 [542]  
Letter from Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Abraham Skinner at Goshen [New York, 30 miles northwest of Stony Point] to Atlee at Lancaster, sending 466 privates and 23 officers, prisoners of war captured at Stony Point; the officers have signed a parole; “*I have allowed them their Servants which reduces the number of Privates from 466 to 441*” [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 9 document 7] [for a directly related prisoner list, see DLAR’s microfilms of Thomas Bradford Papers (manuscripts at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania), Reel 5 document 13]  
[Note: The Battle of Stony Point, north of New York City, fought on the night of July 16, 1779, was a major victory for the Americans.]
17. September 24, 1779 [588]  
Letter from Lieutenant Andrew Rutherford of the 82<sup>nd</sup> [British] Grenadiers at Lancaster to Atlee, apparently a prisoner of war, concerning his servant
18. September 25, 1779 [591]  
Letter from Colonel John Beatty, Commissary General for Prisoners, at Headquarters, to Atlee, concerning ongoing the proposal for a “*General Exchange of the Prisoners of War in our Possession*” but of opposition that has “*unreasonably and absurdly...prevented our wishes*”; stating that “*We have determined however to enter into no Exchange until they adopt the Idea of Equivalency and Mutual Advantage*”; stating that “*Several Complaints have been lodged at Head Quarters and in my Office with respect to the Insolent and Ungentleman like behavior of some of the British Officers at Lancaster, as also of their Exceeding the Limits prescribed them and of Spending the night Riotously in Public Houses...I am to request therefore that you will take proper cognizance of their Actions Suffer none except on Special Occasions (and then with a written passport) to exceed their Limits*”; including other military news
19. September 27, 1779 [595]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to Esther Atlee, telling her that he had received intelligence “*that a large British Ship with three hundred Hessians on board was in the River, coming up, taken by one of our Privateers*”; including other news of the war in Georgia and of Congress in Philadelphia
20. October 12, 1779 [613]  
Letter from William Atlee at York to Esther Atlee, telling her that “*we are very uneasy about the troubles in Philadelphia...the President is very unwell & some bad People seem taking advantage of his situation to cause Disturbances & distress him more*”; concerning personal matters
21. October 15, 1779 [623]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to William Atlee, concerning personal matters

22. October 15, 1779 [628]  
Letter from William Atlee at York to Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters
23. October 18, 1779 [637]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to William Atlee, concerning personal matters
24. [?] 1779 [microfilmed chronologically at October 1779] [652]  
Financial statements [by Atlee?] accounting for payments from \$2,000 received from the [Pennsylvania] Board of War in October 1779 to cover various itemized prisoner-related expenses dated from November 16, 1779 and September 4, 1780

**Volume 9/27** (begin) Nov. 4, 1779 to Jan. 12, 1780 10 documents [Frames 662-803]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

25. November 6, 1779 [668]  
Letter from Hugh Cunningham, jail keeper at Lancaster, to William Augustus Atlee, "*Second Chief Justice of Pennsylvania*", stating enclosure of "*a Provision Return for three of Genral Borgoins Troops Viz. Sarjant Karr John Thompson & Mollons*"; enclosing a return/list of provisions for 15 named prisoners showing absentees [the same 15 as in the list dated November 20, 1779, document 27] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 9 document 9]  
**[Note:** Atlee served as a justice on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1777 to 1791. Why he is here identified as "Second Chief Justice" is not clear. After the 1791 judicial Reorganization Act, he was appointed the head justice (President Judge) for Pennsylvania's 2<sup>nd</sup> judicial district. This, however, cannot have been Cunningham's frame of reference in 1779.]  
**[Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

26. November 13, 1779 [671]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and representative of Delaware in the Continental Congress, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, informing him that Congress has increased the amount he can draw for the year ending last September 3 from \$1,500 to \$6,000; stating that "*I believe the present Assembly will put the officers of Government on a more respectable footing than they have been since the Revolution*"; stating that the timing was bad for an appointment for the gentleman Atlee had recommended because the identified vacancy had already been filled; stating that there was disappointment with the military results in Georgia, in particular, the costly failure to capture Savannah; sharing other news of Congress politics
27. November 20, 1779 [682]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee, stating enclosure of "*a Provision Return for three of Genral Borgoins Troops Viz. Sarjant Karr John Thompson & Mollons*"; enclosing a return/list of provisions for 15 named prisoners showing absentees [the same 15 as in the list dated November 6, 1779, document 25] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 9 document 10]
28. November 27, 1779 [700]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee as "*Second Chief Justice*", providing "*a Provision Return for three of the Convention Troops*," namely Sergeant Karr, John Thompson, and Mollons, with no return attached [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 9 document 11]  
[Note: On October 17, 1777, British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British army to American Major General Horatio Gates after the **Battle of Saratoga** in what was a major turning-point battle in the Americans' fight for Independence from Britain. Besides reversing the momentum of relentless British victories, this battle greatly increased the number of prisoners to be managed by the American prisoner-of-war network. However, these prisoners rarely found their way into the prisons operated by the commissaries of prisoners. This occurred because of the unusual "convention" agreed to on the battlefield on October 17, 1777 between Generals Burgoyne and Gates. Its provisions called for Burgoyne's captured troops to be paroled and shipped home to Europe, prohibited from returning to fight in America again. Since Congress never ratified this controversial agreement, the paroles were never granted, and the prisoners were never sent home. Instead, they were kept together as the so-called **Convention Army** (often referred to in these documents as "Convention Troops" and were marched from one location to another for the duration of the war. They were moved from time to time both to avoid proximity to military action and to allow them to "live off the land." Thus, they were not incarcerated by or provisioned by the commissary of prisoners network, except for some who were wounded or ill, those who had deserted, or those who had committed domestic crimes. If they were too ill or severely wounded to travel, or once they were recapture after desertion or committing a crime, they were often sent to one of the network's prisons.]

References are scattered through the documents of this Finding Aid about the unique group of British and German prisoners of war called the “Convention Army” or “Convention Troops.” Many of these references document the occasional entry of Convention Army deserters or criminals into the established prisoner-of-war prisons. In particular, the Boudinot Papers and Atlee Papers include documents pertaining to the Convention Troops. As Commissary General of Prisoners, Boudinot’s 1777-1778 correspondence reflects the big picture of all American prisoner-of-war operations. Atlee’s correspondence, Lancaster provisions returns, and Lancaster prisoner-of-war lists, especially during 1781 and 1782, reflect the Lancaster prisoner-of-war operation’s accommodation of many Convention Troops who could no longer march with the Army.]

**[Note: Major General Horatio Lloyd Gates** (1727-1806) had a long but mixed military career. In the British Army, he was sent to North America during the Seven Years’ War, where he met George Washington. When the military was reduced following that war, Gates’ career stalled. Seeking opportunity, he left England and settled in Virginia. By 1772, he had reestablished contact with Washington, and in 1775 he became an early military leader in the Continental Army, as a Brigadier General and the first American Adjutant General. By 1777, having been promoted to Major General and placed in command of the Northern Army, he greatly enhanced his career by forcing the surrender of British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne’s army at Saratoga.

But thereafter, he became embroiled in the Conway Affair, an intrigue within the army against its commander-in-chief General Washington that was exposed, with negative consequences for Gates. By 1780 he emerged from under this cloud as commander of the Southern Army. But after he disastrously lost the Battle of Camden, was replaced by General Nathanael Greene, and was subjected to an inquiry into his conduct during the battle, his military career never fully recovered.]

**[Note: Lieutenant General John Burgoyne** (1722-1792), like his Saratoga adversary, was a career military man in the British Army. Unlike Gates, however, his career remained solidly with the British. After successful leadership during the Seven Years’ War in campaigns in northern France and then Portugal, he had been promoted to Major General by the beginning of the American Revolutionary War and to Lieutenant General by 1777. In Canada, he fought successfully under General Guy Carleton, helping drive the invading Americans out of Quebec territory. He then conceived and had the political clout to be placed in command of the British army that sought to split the American states along the Hudson River, potentially isolating New England for British re-conquest.

In October 1777, this plan and Burgoyne’s military career were both dashed at Saratoga by Major General Gates’ victory and Burgoyne’s surrender. After negotiating the battlefield Convention with Gates, Burgoyne returned to England to defend his decisions and account for his defeat. Back home, he turned to politics and a seat in Parliament, which he occupied until his unexpected death in 1792.]

29. December 3, 1779 [708]  
Letter from Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, reporting news and sharing personal matters
30. December 4, 1779 [714]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee, as "*Second Chief Justice*", "*or M<sup>r</sup>. Barton Assistant*", providing "*a Provision Return for three of the Convention Troops*," namely Sergeant Karr, John Thompson, and Mollons, with no return attached [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 9 document 12]
31. December 11, 1779 [719]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee, as "*Second Chief Justice*", "*or M<sup>r</sup>. Barton Assistant*", providing "*a Provision Return for three of the Convention Troops*," namely Sergeant Karr, John Thompson, and Mollons, with no return attached [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 9 document 13]
32. December 19, 1779 [728]  
Letter from Robert Kennedy at Middletown, Pennsylvania [northwest of Lancaster] to Atlee, sending him an account for "*Medicines &c administrd the Hessian Prisoners that were quarterd at Middletown*" totaling £121.10.0
33. December 20, 1779 [731]  
Letter from Robert Lettis Hooper Jr. at Philadelphia to Atlee, thanking Atlee for receiving £350 from a Mr. Achinuty [?]; requesting that he pay it to John Musser; microfilmed with a receipt signed by John Musser for receipt dated December 24, 1779, for the same amount
34. December 1779 [762]  
List of orders from Atlee for prison provisions, with dates from June 12, 1779 through December 3, 1779, with details

## Reel 10 (LC Reel 106)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/27** (end) January 17, 1780 to June 26, 1780 17 documents [Frames 1-160]  
**Volume 9/28** July 1, 1780 to December 31, 1780 15 documents [Frames 161-458]  
**Volume 9/29** January 5, 1781 to June 30, 1781 14 documents [Frames 459-707]  
**Volume 9/30** (begin) July 1, 1781 to August 20, 1781 9 documents [Frames 708-788]

## Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/27** (end) January 17, 1780 to June 26, 1780 17 documents [Frames 1-160]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. January 17, 1780 [2]  
Letter from Lieutenant Colonel B[?] Ball at Wrights Ferry to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary for Prisoners at Lancaster, concerning "*two Hessian Prisoners John Lehr and Julius Shed who had eloped from Messrs Adam Weevers & Daniel French of Lancaster*" and who had been apprehended  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
2. February 2, 1780 [8]  
Letter from Robert Kennedy at Middletown, Pennsylvania [northwest of Lancaster] to Atlee, forwarding a bill for medical services to Hessian prisoners, as attested to by Dr. William Shippen Jr.
3. February 12, 1780 [14]  
Copy of "*Return of Prisoners of Warr at Lancaster*" sent by Atlee to Commissary General of Prisoners Colonel John Beatty, including name, rank, and regiment, divided by officers and privates [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 1]
4. February 21, 1780 [20]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to the [Pennsylvania] Board of War, stating that, when the officers of Brunswick Troops were sent from Easton to Lancaster, a chaplain named Milsheimer was listed among the parolees at Easton but did not arrive in Lancaster; reporting later information that he had been exchanged; providing other details, and raising questions about how to handle this case properly
5. February 25, 1780 [27]  
Letter from Benjamin Stoddert, Secretary of the U.S. Board of War, to Atlee, approving of Atlee's proposed means of handling the Milsheimer case, which is to send him back within the enemy lines, stating that "*if the Enemy have not directed this mans Conduct, Justice & the Public Faith demand that he should be sent to them or that the King's Chaplain for whom he was exchanged, should be returned to captivity*"



6. March 11, 1780 [34]  
List of prisoners sent by Joseph Smith at Lancaster to Atlee, stating that he had received from Atlee 110 "*of the foregoing Prisoners of Warr to Conduct to Fort Frederick by order of the [Continental] Board of Warr*"; list contains names, ranks, and status, for the Royal Artillery, 82<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Loyal [to Britain] Americans, the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers, and "*Skinner's N. Levies*" [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 2]
7. April 8, 1780 [38]  
Letter from William Atlee to his wife Esther Atlee, containing news and other personal matters; followed by  
Letter, with no date, from Esther Atlee to "*Dear Madam*", concerning personal matters
8. April 18, 1780 [49]  
Letter from Beatty at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning prisoner of war matters [microfilm too light to read easily]
9. April 22, 1780 [54]  
Draft of letter from Atlee at Lancaster to the Continental Board of War, concerning matters related to "*removal of the Hessian and Brunswick officers from hence to Bridge Town [now Bridgeton] in Cohansey, Cumberland County New Jersey*" which has been ordered through Colonel Beatty [perhaps the contents of his April 18, 1780 letter to Atlee [document 8]
10. April 13, 1780 [April 30 in the index and folder for this document] 57]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to Esther Atlee, containing personal matters, including the assurance that "*Philad<sup>a</sup>. has not charms enough to induce me to neglect or forget you*"; stating also that "*We have nothing new here but what the Papers give*"
11. May 16, 1780 [81]  
Letter from Robert Lettis Hooper Jr. [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at Easton to Atlee, concerning payment for subsistence for several British officers "*under my care in this Town*", with statement attached, dated November 28, 1780, witnessing receipt by Atlee of £18 full payment of the debt for the officers' subsistence, signed by Henry Bush

[**Note:** Besides major facilities to incarcerate prisoners of war at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Easton** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Reading. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. **Colonel Robert Lettis Hooper Jr.** (c. 1730-1797) of New Jersey served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton from at least January 1778 until sometime soon after this letter was written. He was also Deputy Quartermaster General for a region around Easton from 1776 to sometime in 1780, when his job was abolished in a reorganization.]

12. May 19, 1780 [93]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia, to Atlee, seeking to "*call in the Hessians for exchange*" and seeking Atlee's help since "*I find a great number of them having moved towards Lancaster*"
  
13. June 2, 1780 [135]  
Letter from William Scott at York to Atlee, stating, in response to an inquiry, that "*he has Bolts on his legs but such as are usual in his Situation and the Gaoler seems disposed to favour him as much as may consist with his Safety, and I will endeavour to prevent his being treated with any unnecessary Severity, his Situation is Certainly a great Grief to his friends but it will be his own fault if don't live as comfortably as his unhappy case will admit of*"
  
14. June 12, 1780 [140]  
Letter from John Brooks at the York jail to Atlee, informing him that he has apprehended six new prisoners, who say they are Convention Troops and appear to have been heading toward New York; seeking advice on what to do with them
  
15. May 25, 1780 [June 12 in the index and folder for this document] [143]  
Letter from Joseph Carleton, secretary at the War Office, to Atlee, concerning policy for who should pay for the care and subsistence of British officers who are prisoners of war, stating that it is the prisoners' financial responsibility; similarly, Germans wishing wagons to use when they are moved should provide for these themselves
  
16. June 12, 1780 [147]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania and member of the Continental Congress from Delaware, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, writing about his daily experiences as Chief Justice; passing on the bad news about the war in the South, especially at Charleston; enclosing United States paper money bills of Eight Dollars denomination, microfilmed as six images with different serial numbers, probably one side of six bills

17. June [?], 1780 [160]  
Draft letter from Atlee to the [Continental] Board of War, concerning matters of prisoners of war and their parole and exchange [microfilm too light to read easily and manuscript paper torn]

**Volume 9/28** July 1, 1780 to December 31, 1780 15 documents [Frames 161-458]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

18. July 6, 1780 [170]  
Letter from Second Lieutenant James Cunningham at Mount Joy, Pennsylvania [northwest of Lancaster] to Samuel John Atlee, brother of William Augustus Atlee, concerning recruiting for Captain Robert McThee's Company and arrangement for two substitutes (John Little and William Erwin), each of whom has been paid \$700 to serve  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

19. July 28, 1780 [211]  
Letter from Abraham Skinner, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, at Elizabeth Town, to Atlee, concerning "*the affair of Ross*"; stating that Atlee's conduct "*is very much approved of and I think Mr. Ross had better remain in Status quo till further Orders*"  
[**Note:** Elizabeth Town is today's Elizabeth, New Jersey. Hereafter, in this Reel, the place name Elizabeth refers to Elizabeth, New Jersey.]  
[**Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Elizabeth** was one of the most important locations for American incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, in New Jersey just across the harbor from New York and British military headquarters. Thus Elizabeth served as a primary conduit through which prisoners of war held by the British (in New York and Long Island) and those held by the Americans (primarily in Philadelphia, Lancaster, Reading, York, Lebanon, and Easton, Pennsylvania plus, Winchester, Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland). **Major John Adam** served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners here from 1779 through 1783. **Major (later Colonel) Abraham Skinner** (c. 1753-1835), while Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at the moving headquarters of the Continental Army, frequently worked out of Elizabeth. In September 1780, he officially succeeded John Beatty as Commissary General of Prisoners, after having assumed the responsibilities several months before. Still, he frequently worked out of Elizabeth while negotiating exchanges.]

20. August 3, 1780 [219]  
Letter from Atlee to the Lancaster County Magistrates with orders to do their utmost to help procure wagons for the army
21. August 8, 1780 [224]  
Letter from George Bryan at Philadelphia to Atlee, conveying news of the movements of British ships from the Caribbean and of American privateers out of Baltimore; concerning a man named Joseph Turner being tried in Philadelphia for treason, caught in Virginia trying to load a ship for New York; other similar news  
[Note: **George Bryan** was a wealthy merchant in Philadelphia active in Pennsylvania's early government and politics. He was Pennsylvania's first Vice President (1776-1779 except while he served as President in 1780). He became a Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in 1780. He had strong political views, advocating vocally for a unicameral legislature and against slavery, among other issues.]
22. August 16, 1780 [229]  
Letter from Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Thomas Bradford to Atlee, stating that he is sending five named officer prisoners to Atlee; warning that one should not be sent to Reading because his brother is held there
23. August 27, 1780 [248]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to the Board of War, reporting an escape by 16 prisoners of war from the Lancaster jail; concerning movements of other prisoners, exacerbated by lack of space in existing jails at Easton and Reading; citing a new order forbidding provisions for servants of officers, even if they are prisoners of war  
[Note: Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Reading** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Easton. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. A German immigrant (originally Heinrich), **Colonel Henry Haller** (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 to August 1782.]
24. August 28, 1780 [252]  
Letter from Henry Bush at Easton to Atlee, stating that he is owed about \$400 for provisioning certain prisoners and requesting prompt payment

25. August 30, 1780 [256]  
Letter from Benjamin Stoddert, secretary at the War Office, to Atlee, conveying an order that Lieutenant R. Duncanson "*be permitted to go into New York on parole—he to send out L<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Mercer of the Jersey Troops, confined on Long Island, upon his arrival—the parole exchange to continue until either party gives notion to Dissolve it or until L<sup>t</sup>. Duncanson can affect his final exchange*"
26. September 21, 1780 [304]  
Letter from Abraham Skinner, newly named Commissary General of Prisoners, at the Commissary of Prisoners Office, to Atlee, concerning a request that Captain Mure of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, a prisoner of war at Lancaster, be allowed parole into New York
27. October 2, 1780 [320]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Atlee, informing Atlee that "*The board consent that Capt Mures Servant should attend him—Capt Mure being accountable for his exchange*"
28. October 24, 1780 [328]  
Petition from Robert Conn, prisoner in the Lancaster jail, to Atlee as a justice in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, seeking aid for a friend in the jail
29. October 26, 1780 [331]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, reporting on progress in Congress on a law to conduct a general exchange of prisoners and other legal matters
30. November 5, 1780 [334]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to her husband William Atlee, containing personal matters
31. November 6, 1780 [336]  
Letter from William Henry at Lancaster to Atlee, concerning parole and exchange to New York of certain prisoners of war
32. December 2, 1780 [363]  
Letter from Samuel Atlee to his brother William Atlee, concerning delinquent soldiers, enclosing a list [not microfilmed here]

**Volume 9/29** January 5, 1781 to June 30, 1781    14 documents    [Frames 459-707]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

33. January 5, 1781 [440]  
Return of British prisoners sent from Reading to Lancaster, enclosed with Henry Haller's January 5, 1781 letter to William Augustus Atlee, [document 34]  
[microfilm too light to read easily] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 8]  
[Note: Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
34. January 5, 1781 [445]  
Letter from Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, to Atlee, concerning 54 prisoners of war sent from Easton, which he is sending on to Lancaster, with enclosed list of prisoners [document 33] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 9]
35. January 26, 1781 [461]  
Letter from Abraham Skinner, Commissary General of Prisoners, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, sending Atlee \$20,000 for his prison account; concerning matters with the Continental Congress
36. January 28, 1781 [464]  
Letter from Thomas Bond at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning a British informer named Griffiths, his prevention from being paroled to Charleston, and the involvement of Mrs. Moore, a lady who "*could not be moved*" [text fragmented because of damaged paper]  
[Note: This may be **Thomas Bond, MD**, prominent physician and surgeon in Philadelphia, who was close friend of Benjamin Franklin and with Franklin a founder of Pennsylvania Hospital.]
37. February 22, 1781 [484]  
Letter from Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Thomas Bradford to Atlee, concerning paying Atlee's brother; concerning prisoner matters
38. March 26, 1781 [521]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice George Bryan at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning a bill approving salaries for public officers for the year; concerning financial opportunities through trade with the West Indies, including the slave trade
39. April 11, 1781 [543]  
Letter from Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters and enclosing news
40. April 18, 1781 [557]  
Letter from Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters and his public activities in Philadelphia; wishing to be home soon

41. April 18, 1781 [565]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Atlee, concerning Skinner's travels and duties; concerning the recent "*unexpected Capture of two Gentlemen*", whom he has paroled
42. May 17, 1781 [654]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Atlee, concerning prisoner exchanges
43. May 19, 1781 [658]  
Letter from Samuel Trant to Atlee, requesting "*Please give the Bearer the necessary instructions for having a Man inter'd in the English Church Yard*"
44. June 17, 1781 [690]  
List of British seaman prisoners of war, including name, "*Quality* [rank]", and from "*What Vessel*" for 53 prisoners; signed by Hugh Cunningham, jail keeper at Lancaster, and directed to William Atlee as "*Commissary for British Prisoners*"; with a note that "*All these sent to Philad<sup>a</sup>. Under the Escort of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Abraham Scott the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1781*" [see related list in document 52] [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 14]
45. June 18, 1781 [693]  
Letter from Bradford at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning possibilities for exchanges and therefore Atlee's need to prepare prisoners to leave Lancaster
46. June 30, 1781 [703]  
Letter from E. G. Van Wageningen, deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Fishkill, New York, to Atlee, concerning his sending prisoners of war, as ordered by General Washington, including a list of 38 named prisoners with their ranks [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 15]

**Volume 9/30** (begin) July 1, 1781 to August 20, 1781 9 documents [Frames 708-788]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

47. July 1, 1781 [709]  
Letter from Abraham Skinner, Commissary General of Prisoners, at headquarters at Peekskill, to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, notifying Atlee he is sending "a number of Prisoners from Fishkill to Lancaster; stating that they should be kept "*in Close Confinement until a further Order can be had on the Subject of their Situation*"; stating that "*We are in the highest Spirits here, and every thing very pleasing and promising*"

[**Note:** Hereafter, “Atlee” refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

48. July 4, 1781 [715]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office to Atlee, consenting to Atlee’s request to let out George Storrs, a British prisoner of war, until he regains his health “*taking proper Security for his good Behavior, & Return to Confinement*”
49. July 7, 1781 [722]  
Letter from Thomas Peters, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at York, to Atlee, expecting “*that a Part of the Convention Troops are to be stationed near this Town*”; concerned about their security and care
50. July 9, 1781 [724]  
Financial statement by Michael Lightner and Caleb Johnson to Atlee [difficult to read because the writing is smudged]
51. July 10, 1781 [731]  
Letter from Andrew Leslie, late Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton, to Atlee, forwarding 34 prisoners from Fishkill
52. July 16, 1781 [734]  
“*List of Marine Prisoners Sent from Lancaster to Philad<sup>a</sup>. to the Care of Thomas Bradford...and under the Escort of Captain Abraham Scott*”, including name, rank, and ship for 81 prisoners [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 10 document 16]
53. July 30, 1781 [754]  
Letter from Lieutenant Barnard George Ward of the British 47<sup>th</sup> Regiment and a prisoner of war, at East Windsor to Atlee, concerning difficulties obtaining a wagon and getting his belongings transported out of Lancaster, complaining about “*Waggoners [who] made a merit of robbing a Brittish Prisoner*”; seeking redress  
[**Note:** East Windsor, New Jersey is located northeast of Trenton; Windsor Township in Pennsylvania is located in York County. The prisoner of war camp to which Ward went from Lancaster might have been located in either.]
54. August 11, 1781 [766]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council to Atlee, responding positively to Atlee’s “*remarks with respect to the guards and the utility of having Officers of some skill and judgment with the guard on the prisoners*” and supporting “*your opinion in calling out the Town Militia*” despite “*such difficulties and discontents arising from suspicion of partiality between Country and Town*”; concerning related matters; signed by Joseph Reed, President



[**Note:** The Supreme Executive Council was a multi-headed executive body in early Pennsylvania State government. Its presidency was roughly equivalent to a state governorship.]

55. August 20, 1781 [784]  
Letter from Skinner at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning Congressional approval of a general release of officers from "*General Burgoyne Prisoners taken at the Cedars*"; concerning other matters of prisoners  
[**Note:** The skirmishes in the area of "The Cedars," west of Montreal, had occurred in May 1776, while Americans were still fighting northward to capture Canada and Burgoyne was soon to move his army southward toward its destiny at Saratoga.]

## Reel 11 (LC Reel 107)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/30** (end) Aug. 26, 1781 to Dec. 31, 1781 6 documents [Frames 1-158]  
**Volume 9/31** Jan. 1, 1782 to Dec. 20, 1782 17 documents [Frames 160-531]  
**Volume 9/32** (begin) Jan. 1, 1783 to Dec. 26, 1783 5 documents [Frames 532-721]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/30** (end) Aug. 26, 1781 to Dec. 31, 1781 6 documents [Frames 1-158]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. September 20, 1781 [36]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners at Philadelphia, to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, conveying Captain Edward Potts of Delancy's Corps, a British prisoner of war, along with his Negro servant; Potts to be treated like other officer prisoners of war at Lancaster, including Potts' signed printed parole form, dated September 20, 1781, with a note of the same date by Bradford  
[**Note:** After serving since 1778 as a deputy commissary of prisoners, Bradford's more substantial prisoner-of-war responsibilities in Philadelphia had been officially recognized on October 19, 1780 when he was promoted to the new position of Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners.]  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]

2. September 21, 1781 [39]  
Letter from Bradford to Atlee, conveying to Lancaster three prisoners of war, with names and ranks listed [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 11 document 2]
3. November 20, 1781 [119]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office to Atlee, enclosing a memorandum requesting information about certain German prisoners [names not microfilmed]
4. December 12, 1781 [130]  
Letter from Adjutant General Edward Hand at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning parole granted by General Washington to Edward Potts to go to New York while awaiting exchange
5. December 20, 1781 [135]  
Letter from Captain Thomas Bartholomew Bowen, Town Major of the 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment and Commanding Officer at Reading to Atlee, conveying orders that all the "*German Prisoners from Lancaster*" be moved to Reading
6. December 31, 1781 [138]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice George Bryan at Philadelphia to Atlee, with news of politics and changing positions, including that of Chief Justice Thomas McKean

**Volume 9/31** Jan. 1, 1782 to Dec. 20, 1782      17 documents      [Frames 160-531]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

7. January 1, 1782 [162]  
Duplicate of request from William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, to contractor of wood Henry Dering, to deliver a two-week allowance of wood for the 613 men of the British Royal Artillery and the Convention army prisoners at Lancaster  
[**Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
8. January 11, 1782 [197]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to her husband William Atlee, concerning personal matters

9. February 15, 1782 [300]  
Letter from M. Clarkson, assistant secretary at the War Office, to Atlee, concerning improving the treatment of prisoners of war
10. February 28, 1782 [316]  
Letter from Captain Thomas Bartholomew Bowen, commander at Reading, to Atlee, stating that he is sending Joseph Hewitt, who has been apprehended, to Lancaster "*do dispose of him as you may think proper. He is by all accounts a very great Villain*"
11. March 14, 1782 [March 4 in the index and on the folder] [326]  
Receipt from Lieutenant of the Pennsylvania Artillery John B. Webster to Atlee acknowledging receipt from Atlee of two prisoners of war from the Queen's Rangers, James Lewis and John or Samuel Miller
12. March 11, 1782 [332]  
Letter from British prisoner Major James Gordon of the 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, at Lancaster to Atlee, concerning a Captain Cook's and a Captain Barkley's desires to leave to go to New York, which were not yet approved
13. March 28, 1782 [337]  
Unsigned statement [written by Atlee ?] that "*Major Gordon of the 80<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. representing to me that*" General Washington has given permission for a "*Flag to come from New York to Wilmington...with Cloathing & necessary's for the British Prisoners of Warr at Lancaster, York &c*", a request is made that British prisoners at Lancaster Quartermaster Thomas Tilt of the Light Infantry and Quartermaster John Tilt of the 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment be allowed to go to Wilmington to manage the transfer of goods [see document 14 for Gordon's letter to Atlee]
14. March 28, 1782 [340]  
Letter from Gordon to Atlee, referred to and paraphrased from in Atlee's [?] statement [document 13]
15. April 9 and 10, 1782 [348]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters
16. April 12, 1782 [351]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to her husband William Atlee, concerning personal matters
17. April 16, 1782 [355]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters

18. April 18, 1782 [360]  
Letter from Atlee at Philadelphia to Moses Hazen, concerning a matter raised in Hazen's letter to him [apparently concerning an appointment for Hazen]; stating that he had just resigned from his position [as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster] to Major General Benjamin Lincoln [then U.S. Secretary at War], and would have brought this matter to Lincoln's attention if he had known of it in time  
[Note: **Moses Hazen** (1733-1803) was a talented and colorful person. A New Englander who married a French Canadian, he was a military man but also a schemer to improve his own status and wealth, including multiple, complex ventures in land speculation and development, mostly in New England and Canada. His military career began in the British Army, but he changed sides during the American invasion of Canada in 1775. The regiment he raised first joined the Continental Army at the Battle of Princeton, following up with engagement at Brandywine and Germantown. By 1781, he had attained the rank of Brigadier General, serving under Lafayette at Yorktown. After Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown, Hazen and his troops were assigned to prison-guard duty at Lancaster, which helps explain how he suddenly came into Atlee's life. Although the letter's wording is indirect and vague, it might be that Hazen was angling for appointment to replace Atlee as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster.]  
[Note: **Benjamin Lincoln** (1733-1810) was a military leader in the Continental Army throughout most of the Revolutionary War. Along with several victories, he led the troops that surrendered to the British at Charleston in 1780. By 1781, he was a Major General, serving as Washington's second in command at Yorktown. During 1782, he served as military commander in the capital city of Philadelphia. Following Cornwallis' surrender, he also served, from 1781 through late 1783, as the first U.S. Secretary at War.]
19. July 30, 1782 [435]  
Letter from Atlee as a justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, at Lancaster, to William Moore, President of the State of Pennsylvania [in 1781-1782], concerning investigation of "*a Robbery of a most atrocious kind perpetrated on Friday last [July 26] on the Great Road Leading from Philadelphia to Lancaster*"; identified as a robbery of "*Henderson's & Johnson's Waggon's near the 38 Mile Stone*"
20. July 30, 1782 [438]  
Letter from Richard McAllister and Archibald McLean at York to Atlee, concerning an attempt by three British officers, who had been confined for breach of their parole, to escape from the York jail  
[Note: Richard McAllister was a founder of Hanover in York County. Archibald McLean was a surveyor from York. Their official positions in relation to this jail break are not revealed.]

21. September 18, 1782 [465]  
Order from Atlee to the Sheriff of Lancaster County to arrest Jacob Groves [or Graves?], who is charged with assisting British prisoners to escape
22. October 7, 1782 [481]  
Letter from Esther Atlee at Lancaster to her husband William Atlee, concerning personal matters
23. October 10, 1782 [487]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning his Supreme Court travels to places including Newtown, Trenton, and Burlington; concerning personal matters

**Volume 9/32** (begin) Jan. 1, 1783 to Dec. 26, 1783 5 documents [Frames 532-721]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

24. January 1, 1783 [534]  
Draft of letter from William Augustus Atlee, Justice in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, to Thomas Cheyney, concerning a report that wagons with British goods had been seized "*on their passage tho' your County,*" and that among the goods were found "*some Tomhawks & Swords*"; raising issues of respect for "Flags" as well as concern for the content of wagons of British goods  
**[Note:** This is probably **Colonel Thomas Cheyney** of Chester County. Among other activities as a revolutionary patriot, he served as Justice of the Peace in his home county. Later, his land in Chester County became the campus of Cheyney University, a historically black college.]  
**[Note:** Hereafter, "Atlee" refers to William Augustus Atlee, unless otherwise identified.]
25. January 3, 1783 [536]  
Letter from Cheyney to Atlee, concerning the seizure of British goods in his county [see document 24]
26. February 23, 1783 [544]  
Letter from Moses Hazen at Gompton [?] to Atlee, stating that "*The present prospects of peace are truly flattering, yet they are mixed with not a little gall when we survey our present unfortunate situation, which is like a Barrel of thirteen states without a hoop to keep it to gether. The conduct of Rhode Island is unpardonable, and that of Virginia is no less extraordinary; in not complying with the Requisitions [?] in passing the Import Act*"

27. April 16, 1783 [581]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to his wife Esther Atlee, concerning personal matters
28. November 7, 1783 [681]  
Letter from William Atlee at Pittsburgh to his wife Esther Atlee, describing his Court travels; concerning personal matters

## Reel 12 (LC Reel 108)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/32** (end) January 14, 1784 to December 1784 2 documents [Frames 1-88]  
**Volume 9/33** January 4, 1785 to December 1787 8 documents [Frames 89-473]  
**Volume 9/34** (begin) Jan. 16, 1788 to Mar. 10, 1790 7 documents [Frames 474-702]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/32** (end) January 14, 1784 to December 1784 2 documents [Frames 1-88]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. August 27, 1784 [55]  
Letter from William Augustus Atlee, Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, at Washington, Pennsylvania, southwest of Pittsburgh, to his wife Esther Atlee, describing his Court travels; concerning personal matters
2. August 28, 1784 [60]  
Letter from Samuel Purviance at Baltimore, to Atlee, concerning prospects for new settlements up the Susquehanna River and its tributaries, especially the Chillisquaque and Green Rivers [actually small creeks flowing into the Susquehanna River south and east of present-day Lewisburg, Pennsylvania] and opportunities to buy and sell land in the interior; seeking Atlee's advice  
**[Note: Samuel and his brother John Purviance were active patriots from a prominent Baltimore family grown wealthy on commerce. They also seem to have been interested in land development.]**

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

3. March 26, 1785 [112]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, at Philadelphia, to William Augustus Atlee, a Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, concerning the salaries of justices and other Court news; concerning personal matters
4. March 29, 1785 [116]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice George Bryan at Philadelphia to Atlee at Conestoga Manor, Acton, Pennsylvania, [apparently the Atlees' new home], concerning justice salaries and related political matters, including "*the struggles of party*" and the problems of paper money  
[**Note:** Conestoga Manor, so named by William Penn, is now the small community of Conestoga, south of Lancaster. No geographic place in the area is identified today as Acton.]
5. June 23, 1785 [171]  
Letter from Bryan at Philadelphia to Atlee, reporting news of the Court and of Pennsylvania government
6. September 25, 1785 [187]  
Letter from William Atlee at Lancaster to his wife Esther Atlee at Acton, concerning personal matters
7. October 21, 1785 [195]  
Letter from William Atlee at Philadelphia to Esther Atlee, describing his Court travels, including moving on to Newtown the next day
8. August 16, 1787 [446]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, reporting news of politics in Pennsylvania government
9. September 3, 1787 [450]  
Letter from Atlee at Acton to Alexander Ewing, concerning the legal matter of "*Negro Bob*" who, under a habeas corpus agreement issued by Pennsylvania Attorney General William Bradford, is supposed to be kept by Ewing and not sent to another master

[**Note: William Bradford** (1755-1795) was an attorney from Philadelphia. He served as Pennsylvania Attorney General from 1780 to 1791 and as U.S. Attorney General from 1794 to 1795. From 1791 to 1794, he was a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice. He married Susan Boudinot, daughter of Elias Boudinot, the first U.S. Commissary General of Prisoners. His brother, **Thomas Bradford** (1745-1938), served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners under Boudinot and others.]

10. October 22, 1787 [461]  
Letter from McKean at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning mutual financial matters; wishing to meet with Atlee at Reading; concerning Court news and cases

**Volume 9/34** (begin) Jan. 16, 1788 to Mar. 10, 1790 7 documents [Frames 474-702]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

11. January 23, 1788 [483]  
Letter from John Nicholson to William Augustus Atlee, a justice in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, concerning a Court case; enclosing Atlee's "Quarterly order"
12. May 14, 1788 [508]  
Letter from "An *old Settler in the Borough of York*" writing anonymously to Atlee, concerning his observations that, during their circuit duties, the "*Judges of Pennsylvania*" neglect staying at a particular superior tavern in York run by Messrs. Johnston and Stake; suggesting that the judges should consider their tavern over the one where they now stay, whose owners "*cannot Possibly have an equal claim to Publick Favour*" [this document not indexed]
13. May 14, 1788 [512]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice George Bryan at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning financial matters and land purchase opportunities along with international and national financial news
14. September 17, 1788 [561]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, at Philadelphia, to Atlee, concerning pending Court cases
15. December 24, 1788 [576]  
Letter from McKean at Philadelphia to Atlee, concerning Atlee's wife Esther Atlee's visit to Philadelphia; concerning Court matters



16. March 27, 1789 [589]  
Letter from Atlee's friend Paul Zantzinger at Lancaster to Atlee, returning paper money Atlee had left with Zantzinger to exchange, which he was unable to do because of the declining value of the paper money
17. November 26, 1789 [642]  
Letter from Jacob Rush at Philadelphia County to Atlee, reporting having arrived from Harrisburg at Lancaster safely, just ahead of "*the Lawyers*"; also trying to get over an illness; concerning Pennsylvania politics and personal business with Atlee  
[**Note:** Despite the fact that, in this case, he seems to have been running from lawyers, **Jacob Rush** was a Philadelphia attorney himself and a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice. He was the brother of the famous American physician, Benjamin Rush.]

## Reel 13 (LC Reel 109)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/34** (end) April 17, 1790 to November 11, 1791 3 documents [Frames 1-67]

**Volume 9/35** April 17, 1792 to July 16, 1804 1 document [Frames 68-352]

**Volume 9/36** (begin) March 27, 1805 to June 2, 1819 0 documents [Frames 353-699]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/34** (end) April 17, 1790 to November 11, 1791 3 documents [Frames 1-67]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. July 2, 1790 [12]  
Letter from Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to William Augustus Atlee, a Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, concerning personal matters and court news, including an accident Judge George Bryan [another Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice] and his wife had when their "chair's" horse was frightened on their way to Yellow Springs [east of Lancaster near Valley Forge]

2. October 6, 1790 [20]  
Letter from Esther Cox [wife of probably John or perhaps his brother Alexander Cox] at Bloomsbury [perhaps Bloomsbury, New Jersey, just east of Easton, Pennsylvania or perhaps the name of the Cox family home?] to Atlee at Philadelphia, responding for Mr. Cox, who is unwell, regretting that Atlee will not be coming to visit them; concerning other personal matters
3. July 26, 1791 [50]  
Letter from McKean at Philadelphia to Atlee at Acton, the location of Atlee's home near Lancaster, concerning Atlee's appointment as justice for the Lancaster district; listing other justices to be appointed to other districts

**Volume 9/35** April 17, 1792 to July 16, 1804      1 document      [Frames 68-352]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

4. [no date—latest printed document dated August 3, 1792] [78]  
Printed copies of an extract and a circular sent by Thomas McKean, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to William Augustus Atlee, a Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, as follows:  
Printed extract of minutes of a July 30, 1792 General Meeting of the Citizens of Philadelphia, concerning creation of a "*committee of correspondence*" of seven people, "*respecting the characters proper to be nominated as Members of Congress, and Electors of President and Vice-President*"; listing the seven members, with McKean as chair.  
Printed copy of circular from the newly convened Committee of Correspondence, dated Philadelphia, August 3, 1792, sent to Atlee, asking that he respond by letter to McKean with names of persons "*who, according to your own opinion, and the opinions of the inhabitants of the County in which you reside, ought to be preferred at the ensuing elections of Thirteen Representatives in Congress, and Fifteen Electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States*" [no cover letter is microfilmed, and no date of sending is recorded]  
[**Note:** Atlee died on September 9, 1793.]

**Volume 9/36** (begin) March 27, 1805 to June 2, 1819      0 documents      [Frames 353-699]

**Note:** The following undated documents, listed in the LC General Index as Atlee Papers, were not found in the microfilmed documents:

- [no date]  
Letter from John McKenzie to Atlee
- [no date]  
Letter from [?] Baird et al. to Atlee
- [no date]  
Letter from Caspar Kohn to Atlee, written in German
- [no date]  
Letter from [?] Davids to Atlee
- [no date]  
Letter from Elias Boudinot to Atlee
- [no date]  
Letter from Benjamin Stoddert to Atlee
- [no date]  
Memo of plans from [?] to Atlee et al.

# **Lancaster Committee of Safety Papers** **in The Peter Force Collection, Series 9** **Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents**

**Note:** These Committee Papers are found scattered among many other documents in Series 9 of The Peter Force Collection, in the Library of Congress (LC) Manuscript Division. LC has microfilmed Series 9 in 17 reels, numbered 96 through 112. The David Library owns microfilm copies of LC Reels 96 and 98 through 109 (which it has identified as DLAR Reels 1 through 13, catalogued as Microfilm Set 664).

**Note:** All of the Committee Papers microfilmed in Series 9 and found using the LC General Index for Series 9 are included in this Finding Aid, although some documents pertain to public business not directly related to prisoner-of-war matters. These scattered documents are best found in their microfilm reel using each document's Frame Number.

**Note:** No Committee Papers are found in **Reel 1** (LC Reel 96), **Reel 2** (LC Reel 98), or **Reel 3** (LC Reel 99) of the microfilmed Peter Force Collection, Series 9, owned by the David Library of the American Revolution. LC Reel 97 (1725 through 1752) is not included in the microfilmed reels owned by the David Library.

## **Reel 4 (LC Reel 100)**

### **Summary Contents:**

|                            |                                    |             |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/10</b>         | March 1, 1764 to December 13, 1769 | 0 documents | [Frames 1-533]   |
| <b>Volume 9/11</b>         | January 19, 1770 to April 28, 1775 | 0 documents | [Frames 534-628] |
| <b>Volume 9/12 (begin)</b> | May 1, 1775 to June 11, 1775       | 3 documents | [Frames 629-825] |

### **Itemized, Annotated Contents:**

|                    |                                    |             |                |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| <b>Volume 9/10</b> | March 1, 1764 to December 13, 1769 | 0 documents | [Frames 1-533] |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|

|                    |                                    |             |                  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/11</b> | January 19, 1770 to April 28, 1775 | 0 documents | [Frames 534-628] |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. May 30, 1775 [779]

Letter from George Ross at Philadelphia to the Lancaster Committee, with war news and documents from Congress and the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety

**[Note:** The Lancaster County Committee is referred to by various titles during the period of these papers, from 1775 to 1778. In addition, at various times it split into multiple committees with different names, including, briefly, a separate Lancaster Borough committee. Titles included Committee of Safety, of Correspondence, of Observation, and of Inspection, plus pairings of these. In addition, there was a separate Standing Committee of county inhabitants in general. For simplicity in this Finding Aid, “**Lancaster Committee of Safety**” is the preferred full title and “**Lancaster Committee**” the abbreviated title, regardless of its identity in any one document.

Similarly, the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety or of Correspondence, also referred to as the Pennsylvania Safety Council beginning in September 1776, is identified here as the “**Pennsylvania Committee of Safety**” or simply the “**Pennsylvania Committee.**”]

**[Note: George Ross** (1730-1779) was an attorney practicing in Philadelphia. As the Revolution approached, he was appointed a colonel in the Pennsylvania Militia and became active in public affairs, serving on the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety and elected to the Continental Congress. As a Pennsylvania delegate, he signed the Declaration of Independence. He also served as vice-president of Pennsylvania’s first constitutional convention and later became an Admiralty Judge. He became ill in 1777 and died at age 49 in 1779.]

2. June 1, 1775 [792]

Letter from Ross to Lancaster Committee, stating that “*I fear the Military Ardor in our County may in some measure cool without the assistance of our Committee in its support*”, especially in relation to procuring needed arms from those who have a supply of them; suggesting that “*the Committee could come to a Resolve to Recommend to Such Persons to lend their arms to those who are not able to purchase for themselves*”; also concerning raising the needed troops; with a postscript stating that “*The Quakers & others of scrupulous Conscience here are taking the Steps I have mentioned to you as to linens & cloathing*”

3. June 5, 1775 [803]  
Letter from Robert Armstrong to Lancaster Committee, sending "*the Names of the Men Chose Committee men for this Township, at a Meeting of the Freeman this Day, according to your direction*", listing Stephen Forster, Robert Armstrong, William Foulks, Martin Nie Becker, and James Murray

## Reel 5 (LC Reel 101)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/12** (end) June 12, 1775 to June 30, 1775 4 documents [Frames 1-92]  
**Volume 9/13** July 5, 1775 to October 31, 1775 27 documents [Frames 93-406]  
**Volume 9/14** Nov. 1, 1775 to Dec. 31, 1775 11 documents [Frames 407-653]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/12** (end) June 12, 1775 to June 30, 1775 4 documents [Frames 1-92]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. June 15, 1775 [21]  
Letter from First Lieutenant Abraham Holmes, Andrew Boggs, and Robert Craig, "*Officers Commanding the first associated Company in Donegal (Called the Conoy Company)*" of 83 men, at Donegal [southeast of Pittsburgh], to the Lancaster Committee, noting that there are "*a great Number of People...who Absolutely Deny to Associate or give assistance to the Public Cause, in any way whatsoever unless pointed out to them by you or Some higher Power*"; stating that, "*unless Something is done quickly, our Men ...are not willing to Bear a Burthen for others*"  
**[Note:** See the note after Reel 4 document 1 for clarification on the various names of the Lancaster Committee.]

2. June 16, 1775 [33]  
 Petition from Abraham Scott et al., members of the "*first Associated Company of Mon[t]joy Township*" to Lancaster Committee, complaining that certain local inhabitants "*make it their practice to Dissuade [others] from entering into Associations for our common Defence, [some] even so bold as to Insult, and brand with the term of Rebellion our Associations*"; praying that the Committee take action that will "*put a stop to such Proceedings*"; signed for the Company, at their request, by First Lieutenant Abraham Scott, Second Lieutenant Michael [?], Ensign John Jamison, and Sergeants Jacob [?], William Scott, and Samuel Carbach
3. June 17, 1775 [39]  
 Letter from George Ross at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, conveying information about late news and plans to mobilize and fund an American military force; announcing appointment of General George Washington as commander in chief [on George Ross, see the note after Reel 4 document 1]
4. June 29, 1775 [87]  
 Letter from William Patterson at Harris's Inn to Lancaster Committee, reminding the Committee that "*Each Soldier will be in need of Nap Sack, & as we are to March as Soon as the Company's are raised, there is about 45 engaged, & more hourly expected*"; concerning other supplies needed from the Committee for the troops, "*Hunting Shirts & Trousers are allowed please to Order them made*"

**Volume 9/13** July 5, 1775 to October 31, 1775      27 documents      [Frames 93-406]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

5. July 5, 1775 [95]  
 Copy of letter from the American Continental Congress at Philadelphia to the Lancaster Committee, expressing "*sorrow to hear that the friendship and harmony that formerly subsisted among the good people of your County has been much disturbed*" but leaving it to the County's Committee to resolve the situation; advising the Committee to focus on its efforts to defend America  
**[Note:** See the note after Reel 5 document 1 above on the various titles of the Lancaster Committee and the Pennsylvania Committee.]

6. July 6, 1775 [98]  
Copy of letter from John Dickinson, James Wilson, Charles Humphreys, and George Ross of the Continental Congress, at Philadelphia, to Lancaster Committee, without laying blame, asserting that the Committee should “*exert your utmost abilities according to the trust reposed in you to restore and preserve confidence, harmony, and affection between all your people*”  
**[Note: John Dickinson, James Wilson, George Ross, and Charles Humphreys** were Pennsylvania delegates to the Continental Congress. The first three are considered “Founding Fathers” for their considerable personal contributions to the revolutionary cause. Humphreys voted against the Declaration of Independence and withdrew from the Continental Congress in 1776. See the note after Reel 4 document 1 for more on George Ross.]
7. July 10, 1775 [105]  
Letter from Frederick County, Virginia Committee of Safety to Lancaster Committee, stating that they have employed Andrew Cox to purchase 200 rifles for their county’s use; seeking the Lancaster Committee’s cooperation to assist and expedite the purchase; requesting that, if these guns are not available in Lancaster, that the Committee pass this letter on to neighboring Committees “*as may be most likely to assist in this urgent Business*”; signed on behalf of the Frederick County Committee by Charles Mynn Thurston, chair of the Committee
8. July 10, 1775 [108]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to Continental Congress, concerning the Committee’s military recruitment and supply efforts for a company; recommending as its officers Matthew Smith as Captain, Archibald Steele as first Lieutenant, Michael Simpson as Second Lieutenant, and William Cross as Third Lieutenant [see Reel 5 document 31 for another letter dated October [?], 1775 concerning this company]
9. July 11, 1775 [114]  
Letter from George Ross, James Wilson, and Benjamin Franklin of the Continental Congress, at Philadelphia, to Lancaster Committee, concerning military preparations
10. July 16, 1775 [118]  
Letter from Continental Congress to Lancaster Committee, the cover only
11. July 19, 1775 [120]  
Protest from John Witmer and Eberhard Gruber at Lancaster to Lancaster Committee against the “*Revisal and Printing of the Late Committee Proceedings for y<sup>e</sup> County of Lancaster*” because of inequities in the method used in voting by townships, with a cut-off explanation of the protest in other handwriting



12. July 22, 1775 [130]  
Copy of letter from Lancaster Committee to Continental Congress, reporting that Lancaster has raised another "*Company of Marksmen*", which is almost equipped and ready to march; recommending as its officers James Ross as Captain, James Hamilton as First Lieutenant, Frederick Hubley as Second Lieutenant, and Jacob Rank as Third Lieutenant; signed by the Committee
13. June or July [?] 1775 [140]  
Letter from Salisbury Township, in Lancaster County, to James Burd, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning this township having been combined with several others in to a district for raising a battalion, and then several other townships having broken away from the district, seeking some form of redress from the Lancaster Committee; signed by 17 captains, lieutenants, and ensigns
14. August 1, 1775 [142]  
Letter from Hempfield Township in Lancaster County to Lancaster Committee, wishing to have three rather than only one representative for their township in the County Committee; having chosen Peter Braubaker and James Webb Jr.; signed by five individuals  
[Note: Today, this township in Lancaster County is split into East Hempfield and West Hempfield Townships.]
15. August 2, 1775 [145]  
Address from inhabitants of Lancaster County to Lancaster Committee, expressing a grievance against the practice of allowing debtors to serve in the military, which harms the creditors; signed by 22 individuals
16. August 3, 1775 [149]  
Summons order from Lancaster Committee to Peter Riblet, requiring him to issue a summons for Michael Kline to appear before the Committee; signed by James Burd, chairman
17. August 3, 1775 [152]  
Financial account from Peter Riblet to Lancaster Committee for money owed him for itemized public duties totaling £1.7.6

18. September 1, 1775 [238]  
Letter from Westmoreland County Committee at Hannastown [southeast of Pittsburgh; originally Hanna's Town] to Lancaster Committee, informing the Lancaster Committee that Joseph Symonds of Lancaster and John Campbell of Pittsburgh recently brought "*A quantity of Bohea Tea to Pittsburgh, Opened the Same Publickly and Sold in an Open Contempt and defiance of the Resolves of the Continental Congress*"; reporting that the Westmoreland Committee had burned the tea [see document 19] but had inflicted no corporal punishment; providing descriptions of the men in hopes that others would bring them to justice; note on letter cover "*The Consideration deferred until M<sup>r</sup>. Simons's return from Fort Pitt*"
19. September 1, 1775 [241]  
Deposition describing the illegal sale of tea in Pittsburgh and destruction of the tea [see document 18]; signed by deponents Captain Samuel Miller, Captain John Shields, and Joshua Archer
20. September 13, 1775 [indexed as September 10] [243]  
Financial account from John Pflieger to Lancaster Committee, showing public expenses owed to Pflieger by the Lancaster Committee totaling £3.0.0
21. September 10, 1775 [246]  
Financial account from Peter Row to Lancaster Committee, showing public expenses owed to Row by the Lancaster Committee totaling £1.10.0
22. September 10, 1775 [251]  
Financial account from Christian Zorn et al. to Lancaster Committee, showing public expenses owed to Zorn by the Lancaster Committee totaling £2.5.0
23. September 13, 1775 [254]  
Financial account from Peter Riblet to Lancaster Committee, showing itemized public expenses owed to Riblet by the Lancaster Committee totaling £5.7.0, plus £2.7.0 to be charged to the Continental Congress
24. September 18, 1775 [257]  
Letter from George Ross at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, expressing his full faith in the American cause
25. September 20, 1775 [263]  
Petition from Major John Boyd and eight others to Lancaster Committee, presenting a grievance over voting for officers; seeking redress

26. October 19, 1775 [377]  
 Copy of letter from Owen Biddle and Anthony Wayne of the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, at Philadelphia, to Lancaster Committee, sending to Lancaster to imprisoned in the county jail “*a Certain I Brooks who has been convicted of holding a traitorous Correspondence with some of the British Ministry and of having Communicated Intelligence, that has a tendency to exasperate them against the Americans and provoke them to an invasion of this Colony—Requesting that you will keep his Person in Safety from any acts of Violence, And see the Sentence of this Committee put into execution*”; informing the Lancaster Committee that another prisoner, Dr. John Kearsley, similarly convicted, is being sent to serve his sentence at York; followed by  
 October 11, 1775  
 Extract of minutes from the Pennsylvania Committee concerning the conviction and sentence of I. Brooks  
**[Note: Owen Biddle** (1737-1799) was a clockmaker, watchmaker, and merchant in Philadelphia and active in the revolutionary cause. He served on the Pennsylvania Committee as well as its successor Council of Safety, on the Board of War, and as a delegate to the first Pennsylvania constitutional convention. Owen Biddle and the younger Philadelphia banker Nicholas Biddle came from different branches of the same Biddle family, which had settled in Pennsylvania during the time of William Penn in the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century.  
**“Mad” Anthony Wayne** (1745-1796) became famous as a military leader, but he was a political leader both before and after the Revolution—here as a member of the Pennsylvania Committee and afterwards as a Representative in the U.S. Congress from Georgia. His military career began early in the Revolution when he became colonel in the 4<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment.]
27. October 23, 1775 [384]  
 Letter from Lancaster Committee to York Committee of Safety, informing the York Committee that I. Brooks is to be imprisoned in the Lancaster County Jail and Dr. John Kearsley in the York jail.
28. October 24, 1775 [387]  
 Letter from Lancaster Committee to Pennsylvania Committee, informing the Pennsylvania Committee that I. Brooks, Dr. Kearsley, and a Captain Marcot [?] and his company had been “*safely lodged*” in the Lancaster County Jail.
29. October 26, 1775 [390]  
 Letter from York Committee to Lancaster Committee, reporting that Dr. Kearsley had been delivered to the York County Jail; signed by seven York Committee members
30. October [?], 1775 [398]  
 Financial account from Francis Bailly to Lancaster Committee, for public printing expenses owed to Bailly totaling £65.11.8

31. October [?], 1775 [405]  
Letter from Captain Matthew Smith from a company in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of Lancaster Militia, at Lancaster, to Lancaster Committee, concerning the company's recruitment and supply; reporting the company's additional officers, Archibald Steele as First Lieutenant, Michael Simpson as Second Lieutenant, and William Cross as Third Lieutenant; announcing the company's readiness to march to a camp near Boston in "*two or three days*" [see Reel 5 document 9 for another letter, dated July 10, 1775, concerning this company]

**Volume 9/14** Nov. 1, 1775 to Dec. 31, 1775 11 documents [Frames 407-653]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

32. November 23, 1775 [477]  
Letter from Richard Bache [Comptroller ?] at Philadelphia to the Lancaster Committee, concerning appointment of a deputy paymaster for Lancaster and giving security for the discharge of his duties  
[**Note:** See the note after Reel 5 document 1 above on the various titles of the Lancaster Committee and the Pennsylvania Committee.]
33. December 10, 1775 [519]  
Letter from John and Richard Woods of Leacock Township, Lancaster County, to George Ross and the Lancaster Committee, reporting having formed a new committee for their Township, after two members of the previous committee resigned because they were "*not attending their Duty*"; followed by  
December 8, 1775  
Document concerning the meeting of Leacock Township inhabitants on this date; followed by  
December 1, 1775  
Statement by Robert Anderson and James Cooper of their reasons, pertaining to election irregularities, for resigning as Leacock Township committeemen
34. December 28, 1775 [532]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, concerning "*rules and Regulations for the Better Government of the Military associators in Pennsylvania*" and printing them immediately in English and German; signed by Committee chairman John Nixon

35. December 30, 1775 [538]  
Report from Subcommittee on Gunsmiths to Lancaster Committee, reporting on the status of musket and musket part making by several local gunsmiths, including John Graef, John Henry, Frederick Veynot [?], Peter Racses [?], Jacob Kraft, Christopher Kindenhard, John Miller and Peter Ganter, Christopher Jsh [?], and Jacob Dickert; signed by Sebastian Graff, George Houser [?], Michael Messer, and John Witmer Jr.
36. December 30, 1775 [541]  
“*Return of the Cartridges delivered to the Captains of the Several Companies*” in Lancaster, as reported to Colonel Paul Zantzinger [friend of William Augustus Atlee; see the Atlee Papers] from Captains Jasper Yeates, Jacob Klotz, [?] Masier, Andrew Graff, Peter Hofnagle, Samuel Boyd, and John Henry, each reporting having delivered 138 cartridges  
[Note: **Jasper Yeates** (1745-1817) was an attorney from Lancaster. His circle of friends and relatives included several other influential leaders in the revolutionary cause from Lancaster. William Atlee was a friend and attorney colleague, and his wife’s parents were James Burd and Sarah Shippen. As noted in this letter, Yeates served in the Pennsylvania Militia. He also was a member of the Lancaster Committee and its chair in 1775. Later, he served, along with James Wilson and Thomas McKean, on Pennsylvania’s Constitutional Convention that approved the U.S. Constitution.]
37. December 30, 1775 [544]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning meeting the needs to supply Continental armed vessels on the Delaware River and the marines on board them; signed by Chairman John Nixon  
[Note: John Nixon was also Colonel of a Pennsylvania Militia regiment.]
38. December [?], 1775 [550]  
Draft of letter from Lancaster Committee to Pennsylvania Committee, concerning the difficulty of procuring arms for the “*many brave men in this County desirous of qualifying themselves to stand forth in the Support of our much valued Rights & Liberties, by learning Military Discipline*”; seeking advice from the Pennsylvania Committee [another draft of this letter in document 39]
39. [?] 1775 [555]  
Draft of letter from Lancaster Committee to Pennsylvania Committee [another draft of the letter in document 38]
40. [?] 1775 [590]  
Representation of John Philip de Haas to Lancaster Committee, laying before the Committee concerns Lebanon Township had about the association of local inhabitants “*for the defense of American Liberty*”, signed by W. C. de Haas  
[Note: **John Philip de Haas** later rose to the rank of Brigadier General for Pennsylvania troops in the Continental Army.]

41. [?] 1775 [606]  
Petition from First Lieutenant William Hay, Second Lieutenant Robert McQueen, and Ensign David McQueen of the Second Associated Company of Londonderry Township, Lancaster County, to Lancaster Committee, requesting that their battalion's territory, covering several geographically large townships, be split for convenience of meeting  
[Note: Londonderry Township is southeast of Lancaster, now in Chester County.]
42. [?] 1775 [615]  
Representation of the tailors of Lancaster County to Lancaster Committee, concerning their desire to contribute through their trade to "*the present Struggle for our Constitutional Liberty*" and wishing that the confines of these contributions not be limited to tailors in Philadelphia; signed by John Hunter and 21 other individuals

## Reel 6 (LC Reel 102)

### Summary Contents:

|                    |                                    |              |                  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/15</b> | January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776    | 18 documents | [Frames 1-247]   |
| <b>Volume 9/16</b> | June 7, 1776 to July 30, 1776      | 39 documents | [Frames 248-510] |
| <b>Volume 9/17</b> | August 1, 1776 to October 28, 1776 | 35 documents | [Frames 511-821] |

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

|                    |                                 |              |                |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Volume 9/15</b> | January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776 | 18 documents | [Frames 1-247] |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. January 7, 1776 [15]  
Petition from John Maloney to the Lancaster Committee, seeking reinstatement as a rifleman, after having gotten sick at Reading when his company, under Captain Smith, had set off for Boston, leaving Maloney behind to recover  
[Note: See the note after Reel 4 document 1 for clarification on the various names of the Lancaster Committee.]

2. January 15, 1776 [37]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to Captain Alexander McKee, requesting that he immediately come to Lancaster as a result of having received intercepted information from Frederick County, Maryland, including a letter from a Doctor John Connolly to McKee; signed by Chairman Jasper Yeates [on Jasper Yeates, see the note after Reel 5 document 36]  
[Note: **Captain Alexander McKee** (1735-1799), who was part Shawnee Indian, worked as an Indian Agent for the British Indian Department and for Pennsylvania. Sometime in the mid-1770s, he decided to cast his lot with Britain, moving to Detroit, where he continued his work as an Indian Agent for the British. He died in Canada in 1799.  
[Note: On the remarkable life of **Dr. Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly** (1741-1813), see, in the Bradford papers in this Finding Aid, the note after Reel 5 document 637. Concerning Connolly's relationship with McKee, like McKee, Connolly also had Indian Agent connections through an uncle named George Croghan. During the 1760s and early 1770s, Connolly, Croghan, and McKee were associates in the work of communicating between the British and the Indians. In 1774, all three were at Fort Pitt at the time of Lord Dunmore's War, siding with Virginia (and, seemingly ironically, against the Indians). While McKee chose in the mid-1770s to move on west to British Detroit, Connolly remained in the rebellious colonies, scheming as a loyalist, and with little success, for British advantage. When, after 1788, Connolly himself moved to Detroit, he reconnected with McKee. (An interesting but dated reference is Clarence Monroe Burton's article in the *American Antiquarian Society* magazine of October 1909 entitled "John Connolly: Tory of the Revolution".)]
3. January 15, 1776 [39]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to George Ross, thanking him for agreeing to convey the Committee's concerns to Captain McKee and let the Committee know where McKee is [see document 2]; signed by Jasper Yeates
4. February 16, 1776 [79]  
Letter from William Hay of Londonderry Township to Lancaster Committee, [single page of what appears to be a longer, personal letter, containing comments about governance by those with private interests at heart as opposed to public interests, but identified as being "*by Order of the Committee [signed] Wm. Hay, Chairman*"]
5. March 4, 1776 [94]  
Letter from John Scott Jr. of Mill Creek to Jasper Yeates, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, hoping that a new drum will be acquired for the company rather than the "old Drum" "*which Capt. Brisbin [John Brisban] mentioned to you and the Accompt of what Expences he lead out*"; "*NB Gentlemen I look on it to be a ronging of the publick to put the company with a old Drum & let Capt Brisbin pocket the money*"

[Note: Present-day Mill Creek, Pennsylvania is in Huntingdon County east of Altoona.]

6. March 5, 1776 [97]  
Petition from John Fisher to Lancaster Committee, seeking to get his apprentice, Philip Stump, released from the Continental Service, after a number of apprentices had successfully enlisted
7. March 6, 1776 [100]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, seeking assistance from the Lancaster Committee in finding "*among the prisoners with you...any tradesmen who would be willing to come down & work, upon Wages, at their [reputed ?] Occupations*"; signed by six committee members
8. March 7, 1776 [103]  
Letter from Captain William West Jr. and Captain John Hubley at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, stating that their companies will soon be ordered to march, but that they have insufficient blankets; requesting that the "*housekeepers of Lancaster*" will quickly provide as many blankets as possible and deliver them to merchants Messrs. Lauman & Hubley, who "*will pay for & forward them to us*"  
[Note: William West Jr. may be the brother of noted artist Benjamin West. John Hubley was from Lancaster. See his correspondence with William Augustus Atlee in the Atlee Papers.]
9. March 14, 1776 [109]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, stating that, consistent with resolutions of Congress dated February 26, 1776 and March 14, 1776 [extracts quoted in the letter], officer prisoners of war are to be distributed among other towns in Pennsylvania, specifically York and Carlisle; signed by Chairman James Meare
10. March 29, 1776 [131]  
Representation from the Lancaster Associators Field Officers to Lancaster Committee, stating that they have "*Shown themselves Spirited in the Glorious Cause of American Liberty*", wishing the Committee to recommend the same spirit to others, and stating that "*we are further of Opinion that a Non Associator ought not be let in Committee to Prescribe Rules to the Associators*"
11. March 29, 1776 [134]  
Request from the Pennsylvania Committee to purchase 110 cannon and later contract to the purchase cannon, dated March 30, 1776 from Michael Hillegar for £1,000 and a second contract dated September 7 [?], 1776, from John M[?] Nesbit for £3,000



12. March 30, 1776 [137]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, seeking to procure 300 rifles from Lancaster County from local gunsmiths; signed by Chairman John Nixon
13. April 1, 1776 [142]  
Letter from Lieutenant John Clark and Lieutenant Thomas Gourley to Lancaster Committee, concerning a case where two men had enlisted in two companies, one in York and the other in Lancaster; seeking orders so that they can keep the two men
14. April 1, 1776 [145]  
Petition from Caleb Coope, John Jordan, Henry Helm, Michael Eberhart, Michael Bartgis, and Paul Wentzel, all of Lancaster, to Lancaster Committee, seeking payment for "*having boarded & lodged Some of the Officers of the 7<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment*" who "*were not able to pay or to make any other Satisfaction to us for their said necessary Support*"
15. April 7, 1776 [165]  
Petition from John Boyd to Lancaster Committee, seeking help in clarifying his commission as an officer, acquired through complicated circumstances
16. April 9, 1776 [168]  
Petition from Martin Seller, Jonathan [?], and John Lightner, all of Leacock, to Lancaster Committee, seeking redress from improper voting procedures during the local March election
17. April 11, 1776 [171]  
Report of Subcommittee on Tradesmen in Prison to Lancaster Committee, providing a list of tradesmen by trade, name, and numbers of persons, including 42 trades with between 12 and 1 numbers of persons each and a total of 98 people [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 6 document 1]
18. April 13, 1776 [181]  
Letter from Salisbury Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning a Salisbury gunsmith who has engaged to provide rifles for public use but "*can not fulfil his Ingagement for want of Barrells & other Materials*"; seeking assistance from the Lancaster Committee in acquiring the needed materials, for which they are prepared to pay; signed by Chairman Nathaniel Chambers

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

19. June 7, 1776 [250]  
Petition from John Calder, in the Lancaster jail, to the Lancaster Committee, requesting that the committee review his case and "*mercifully look on my misery and Order me to be releasd from this Place*"  
[**Note:** See the note after Reel 6 document 1 above on the various titles of the Lancaster Committee and the Pennsylvania Committee.]
20. June 7, 1776 [253]  
Letter from Philip Greenwalt at Lebanon to the Lancaster Committee, stating that he "*shall do my utmost Indeavers to act up to the Orders received*"
21. June 7, 1776 [256]  
Petition from John Jordan at Lancaster to Lancaster Committee, requesting, having received no response to his previous petition through them to Congress concerning accounts due to him "*for keeping some of the regular officers that Was Brought Here Prisoners from St. John's [in Canada]*"
22. June 8, 1776 [259]  
Financial account from Peter Riblet to Lancaster Committee, enumerating amounts due him for public expenses in March, April, and May 1776, mostly for attending and supplying paper for Lancaster Committee meetings, signed by William Atlee, Andrew Graff, James Cunningham, and Robert Craig as "*reasonable*" expenses
23. June 8, 1776 [263]  
Bill from John Rogers to Lancaster Committee, for blankets purchased for the Committee
24. June 15, 1776 [281]  
Petition from Robert Anderson, Thomas Bailey, William Williams, Christopher Barker, and James Durant, in the Lancaster jail, to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*We hope your Honours is fully convinst that We are not such men as was suspected*" and that they are innocent of charges against them; requesting another hearing on their case; signed by five individuals

25. June 15, 1776 [287]  
Petition from Andrew Walker, James Dearn, and Robert Greenland "*Regular Prisoners now in Goal*", to Lancaster Committee, admitting guilt, but begging that the Committee will "*look over this our first fault*"
26. July 2, 1776 328]  
Letter from Benjamin Thorn to Lancaster Committee, seeking to discover why he was arrested and jailed; explaining his actions and his innocence
27. July 3, 1776 [334]  
Letter from James Burd from his home at Tinian, southeast of Harrisburg on the Susquehanna River, to Lancaster Committee, concerning the decision by his battalion's "Board of Officers" that a prisoner named Daniel Shelly should be apprehended and charged
28. July 3, 1776 [337]  
Cover of letter from the Continental Congress, signed by John Hancock, to Lancaster Committee, apparently pertaining to the Daniel Shelly case
29. July 3, 1776 [340]  
Appearance bonds for Shelly Daniel, Abraham Derr, George Laumen, William Wall, David Rose, and Absalom Lane to appear before the Lancaster Committee
30. July 3, 1776 [343]  
"*Report*" of what William Wall stated about what Daniel Shelly told him about English troops and how to get "*powder and Ball*"
31. July 6, 1776 [347]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to Pennsylvania Committee, stating that the Lancaster Committee has responded to the "*very important matters recommended to them*" with several resolutions [apparently pertaining to the Declaration of Independence] [not microfilmed here]; signed by George Ross, Chairman
32. July 6, 1776 350]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to [?], following up on a previous letter dated July 5, 1776, concerning resolutions adopted by the Lancaster Committee about raising a battalion from Lancaster County toward the goal of 6,000 men for the "*Flying Camp*" regiment; signed by George Ross, Chairman
33. July 7, 1776 [352]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to Pennsylvania Committee, concerning recent public affairs and responses necessitating mobilizing the Pennsylvania Militia; concerning the large number of prisoners of war now located in Lancaster and difficulties guarding them; concerning other responses to the political and military situation

34. July 8, 1776 [355]  
Certificate to Lancaster Committee, confirming the election of officers for a company of militia raised from Lancaster with William Hay as Captain, Robert Clark as First Lieutenant, Patrick Hays as Second Lieutenant, and William Patterson as Third Lieutenant; signed at Elizabethtown [about halfway between Lancaster and Harrisburg] by Colonel Bartram Galbraith, Lieutenant Colonel Mend [?] Lauren, and Major James Cunningham
35. July 10, 1776 [367]  
Draft recommendation from Lancaster Committee that journeyman Thomas McClenaghan go to work with Michael Rhinehart, gun-barrel maker, because of the shortage of gun makers
36. July 12, 1776 [369]  
Letter from John Hancock, Chairman of the Continental Congress, to Lancaster Committee, enclosing a resolution ordering that the Lancaster barracks be stockade and prisoners guarded in it; followed by  
July 10, 1776  
Copy of resolution by Continental Congress that the Lancaster Committee be requested to guard prisoners in the barracks, that the barracks should be stockaded, and that prisoner privates in Reading be moved to Lancaster  
[Note: With construction of this new **barracks**, specifically for incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, **Lancaster** became the largest prison center for prisoners of war held by the Americans (just months before American victories at Trenton and Princeton yielded a large influx of prisoners). After Philadelphia was recaptured from the British in June 1778, that city's New Jail became a second major prisoner center. A network of other places also incarcerated prisoners of war, including especially York, Lebanon, and Easton in Pennsylvania as well as Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey.]
37. July 12, 1776 [373]  
Letter from the Donegal Township Associators to Lancaster Committee, concerning their difficulties in raising a company of militia; signed by 99 individuals
38. July 12, 1776 [380]  
Letter from Lebanon Committee of Safety to Lancaster Committee, reporting sending to Lancaster, as ordered by Colonel George Ross, "*Lieutenant Barrington's Goods and Baggage*" which are itemized; including notes concerning the costs; signed by Colonel Philip Greenwalt and John Thorne

39. July 16, 1776 [401]  
Letter from Lebanon Committee to Lancaster Committee, reporting sending "*all the Baggage of the Officers/prisoners of War who lately made their Escape from this place*" which are itemized; including an itemization of expenses totaling £30.2.2; signed by Greenwalt and Thorne
40. July 18, 1776 [409]  
Letter from James Burd at Middletown [southeast of Harrisburg] to Lancaster Committee, sending returns of eight companies, with the return for one more company expected; also sending a prisoner, Captain John White, accused of helping with the escape of officer prisoners at Lebanon [returns not microfilmed here]
41. July 18, 1776 [415]  
Draft of letter from Lancaster Committee to Pennsylvania Committee, stating that the officers who escaped at Lebanon left behind considerable unpaid debts; consideration of ways to recoup the money owed; stating that the number of prisoners in the barracks at Lancaster is now "*about Seven Hundred Men Women and Children*"; concerning Lieutenant Barrington's prisoner status and his possible parole; concerning other prisoner matters
42. July 22, 1776 [425]  
Letter from Colonel Robert Thompson to Lancaster Committee, concerning the recruitment of me "*willing to turnout in Defence of there Country*" and the need for arms for them
43. July 23, 1776 [432]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee Chairman Atlee to Richard Peters, Secretary of the Board of War [in its administrative arm, the War Office] in Philadelphia, stating that Captain Sterling had been assigned to "*conduct a number of Prisoners to this Town*"; stating that the barracks are already full and that additional space would have to be procured to accommodate them; mentioning the activities of other officers, including Captain William Godwin of the artillery and Captain Gamble; commenting about the parole process, in particular in relation to a prisoner named John Brown [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 3]
44. July 23, 1776 [438]  
Letter from Peter Grubb at Hopewell Forge [south of Altoona] to Lancaster Committee, stating that his battalion "*met on Sunday Last and have agreed to march 2 Companies next Monday and 2 the next and so on until the whole has march<sup>d</sup>.*"

45. July 23, 1776 [441]  
Petition from Earl Township, Lancaster County, to Lancaster Committee, concerning the Philadelphia Committee's resolution that "*if Any associator Called into Actual Services Should Leave a family not of ability to maintain Themselves in his absence, the overseers of the poor with the Concurrence of our Justice of the peace of the City or County where such Asociator did Reside Shall Immediately make Provision by way of out pension for the maintenance such family*"; suspecting that the funds available for this "*will prove greatly insufficient*", and seeking assistance to appoint sufficient numbers of judicial people to distribute the funds; signed by 11 individuals
46. July 24, 1776 [444]  
Letter from Colonel Philip Greenwalt at Lebanon to Lancaster Committee, announcing that the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion from Lancaster County "*is determined to march for Trenton in the Jersies next Monday. And that the men stand in Need for Musquets, Catrige Boxes Field Kettles Kanteens & other Necessary Accoutrements*"
47. July 24, 1776 [447]  
Letter from John Hubley at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, concerning the Continental Congress' resolution for expediting mustering of troops and receipt of advanced money to pay them; followed by  
July 23, 1776  
Resolution by Congress empowering Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Birks, and Northampton Counties to muster troops and to draw one month's pay for them in advance  
**[Note:** Captain John Hubley of Lancaster, appears at this time to be engaged in war management through the Philadelphia Committee.]
48. July 24, 1776 [451]  
Letter from Lebanon Committee to Lancaster Committee, sending to Lancaster under guard "*an Old Man named William Poor*" thought to have assisted the officer prisoners escape from Lebanon over the mountains
49. July 25, 1776 [458]  
Draft of a circular letter from William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, to townships in the county, suggesting that they appoint "*a proper number of judicious persons residing in the said Counties responsibility to distribute to the distressed Families of such associators, as are called into Actual Service and are not of ability to maintain themselves*" and that they report the names of those appointed to the Lancaster Committee [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 4]
50. July 26, 1776 [464]  
Examination of William Poor by the Lancaster Committee, concerning his role in the escape of officer prisoners at Lebanon

51. July 26, 1776 [468]  
Examination of John White by the Lancaster Committee, concerning his role in the escape of officer prisoners at Lebanon
52. July 26, 1776 [472]  
Letter from Captain David Morgan of Earl Township to Lancaster Committee, concerning an Associator who is "*infirm as to Health and old but has been harty in the Cause yet I think he is not fit for actual service*"; therefore, requesting that he be allowed to return home
53. July 27, 1776 [479]  
Letter from soldier Robert House in the Royal Fusiliers, a prisoner in the Lancaster barracks, to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, requesting a pass to return briefly to his master, John Kennedy, stating that "*As I was ordered to leave him upon a sudden, I not only left my Wages unsettled, but also great part of my Necessaries behind*" [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 5]
54. July 29, 1776 [485]  
Petition from Gilbert Graham of Hanover Township to Lancaster Committee, an Associator who is "*in Verry Low Circumstances*", seeking to be allowed to return home to work to support his family; with signatures of six individuals certifying the truth of his circumstances
55. July 29, 1776 [488]  
Letter from David Rittenhouse, a cutter, to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*Understanding there is a file-cutter or two among the Prisoners*", requesting that the Committee help release one or more of these to work for him since he needs the labor
56. July 30, 1776 [491]  
Letter from Captain Isaac Adams and Captain Alexander Martin, at Hinkeltown [present day Hinkletown is southeast of Ephrata] to Lancaster Committee, requesting assistance in obtaining advance pay money for their companies, who are not willing to march without that pay
57. July 30, 1776 [497]  
Petition from John Wilson, prisoner at Lancaster, to the Lancaster Committee, stating that he had been servant to a British naval officer, now a prisoner at York; seeking permission for him and his wife to be transferred there

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

58. August 1, 1776 [513]  
Letter from Gabriel Davis of the Earltown Township (now East Earl Township, east of New Holland) Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning an order to supply clothing which did not appear to be among the "*Regular orders from the Committee*"; requesting clarification [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6, 17, document 7]  
[**Note:** See the note after Reel 6 document 1 above on the various titles of the Lancaster Committee and the Pennsylvania Committee.]
59. August 3, 1776 [519]  
Petition from Richard Storrey in Lancaster Jail to Lancaster Committee, seeking clemency, since "*it is the first offence that I committed*" to be able to get assistance for his "*poore Wife...and a young Child*" [plea repeated in document 64]
60. August 5, 1776 [530]  
Letter from Lieutenant William Barrington of the Royal Fusiliers, prisoner in the Lancaster jail, to Lancaster Committee, seeking to obtain his baggage, was "*improperly mix'd*" with other baggage as he was hurriedly required to leave Lebanon
61. August 5, 1776 [534]  
Letter from a prisoner, Jonathan Pilling, to the Lancaster Committee chaired by William Atlee, seeking permission to be moved to the barracks, where he has a friend he would like to be near [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 8]
62. August 6, 1776 [537]  
Letter from R. Potts, Clerk of the Committee at Frederick, Maryland, to Lancaster Committee, informing them that several officers held at Frederick had been paroled and that they were asking for return of their servants; including a list of eight officers and their servants [listed also in Prisoner Lists, Reel 6 document 3]
63. August 6, 1776 [540]  
Financial account from Peter Riblet to Lancaster Committee, itemizing his latest expenses on behalf of the Committee, totaling £12.3.10



64. August 6, 1776 [543]  
Letter from Storrey in Lancaster jail to Lancaster Committee, reiterating his plea for assistance for his wife and young child [see document 59]
  
65. August 10, 1776 [556]  
Letter from Heidelberg Township Committee to Lancaster Committee, reporting having appointed Philip Britenbach, John Wooster, and George Meister to "*take care and maintain such distressed Families of the associators*"
  
66. August 12, 1776 [563]  
Petition from John Fitzgerald of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, in Lancaster jail, to Lancaster Committee, stating that he was improperly detained "*on Suspicion of being a Deserter wick I can asure you that I am not*"; requesting to be sent back to duty in his company commanded by Captain Taylor
  
67. August 12, 1776 [566]  
Letter from Richard Peters in the War Office to Lancaster Committee, instructing the Committee to "*permit Capt. Arstruther's Servant William Brown a prisoner at Lancaster to reside with his Master at Reading on his said Masters sending you an Agreement that he will by every Means in his Power prevent the Misbehavior of his Servant either in corresponding with the Enemy or other Misconduct*" [see document 69]
  
68. August 14, 1776 [574]  
Letter from James Gordon at York to Lancaster Committee, including copies of two resolves by the York Committee:  
August 10, 1776  
Resolve granting Ensign Gordon's request that his "*Boy named George Sands—now at Lancaster, be permitted to reside with the Ensign to wait of him*"  
Resolve requesting that "*one of the Soldiers who is in a bad state of Health, and who's wife is now there*" be given passes to go home to York [this resolve not microfilmed]
  
69. August 15, 1776 [579]  
Letter from Captain William Arstruther of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment, prisoner at Reading, to Lancaster Committee, promising "*to endeavor to prevent William Brown Solgier in the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment from doing any thing unbecoming the station he is in as a Prisoner /while he is in my Service/*" [see document 67]
  
70. August 15, 1776 [582]  
Letter from James Burd at Tinian, his home on the Susquehanna River southeast of Harrisburg, to William Atlee, Chair of the Lancaster Committee, concerning difficulties obtaining money to pay for commissary needs and related matters [microfilm too light and too smudged to read easily] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 10]

71. August 21, 1776 [604]  
Letter from Colonel John Ferree at Strasburg, southeast of Lancaster, to Lancaster Committee, requesting assistance in getting three privates in his battalion returned to their proper company ready to march
72. August 21, 1776 [607]  
Pass signed by William Atlee, Chair of the Lancaster Committee, allowing Sergeant [?] Sutherland of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment and prisoner of war at Lancaster, to go to Reading with a letter and accounts "*relative to that Regiment to be presented to General Prescott*" and then to return to Lancaster by August 24, 1776; including an additional pass, written at the bottom of the page, for Sutherland's return, dated August 22, 1776, signed by James Reed, Chairman of the [Reading] Committee [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 12]
73. August 26, 1776 [619]  
Letter from James Work at Donegal, to Lancaster Committee, warning the Committee about a certain William Davis, who has gotten into trouble and "*that this man [should] by no means be permitted to come into this Neighborhood again*"
74. August 27, 1776 [622]  
Letter from John Harris at Paxton [now Lower Paxton Township east of Harrisburg, home of the earlier Paxton Boys] to Lancaster Committee, concerning violence and potential violence on the frontier, including both vigilante activities against "Tories" and the potential for war with certain Indian tribes
75. August 30, 1776 [628]  
Copy of letter from William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, to John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, concerning the movement of Continental troops and the difficulty of delivering express communications [microfilm too light to read easily] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 13]
76. August [?], 1776 [631]  
Financial account from Caspar Fordney to Lancaster Committee, itemizing and requesting payment for having made and delivered 65 "*Tin Camp Kettles*" for use by "*diferent Companies & Battallions*" at a cost of £0.7.6 per kettle

77. August 27, 1776 [634]  
Letter from John Harris at Paxton to Lancaster Committee, concerning his township's preparations for war while also maintaining the local agricultural economy, including copies of two resolutions from the Committee of Paxton Township to Lancaster Committee, both signed by Chairman Andrew Berreyhill, as follows:  
August 14, 1776  
Resolution requesting the delivery of gunpowder and ordering the acquisition of all available guns; followed by  
August 15, 1776  
Resolution to obtain "advice and opinion" on how to manage obtaining released labor from the local companies of soldiers for "*putting in our fall Crops*"  
[microfilmed with pages in reverse order]
78. August [?], 1776 [637]  
Petition from John Long to Lancaster Committee, stating that he has been required to join the militia "*notwithstanding his his age is such as he thinks would have exempted him from the service*"; seeking approval of his exemption
79. September 1, 1776 [640]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to Carlisle Committee of Safety, concerning Lieutenant William Barrington's situation [see document 60] [microfilm too light to read easily]
80. September 2, 1776 [643]  
Letter from C Read, Secretary of the Reading Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning permission for a Lancaster prisoner Hamilton Harmon to go to Reading "*where his master Cap<sup>n</sup>. Swan is stationed*" and related business [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 14]
81. September 5, 1776 [649]  
Letter from Captain A. Gordon of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment, prisoner at York, to Lancaster Committee, stating that the York Committee has granted "*permission for Tho<sup>s</sup>. Deakin of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment to come over here as my Servant*"; requesting that the Lancaster Committee assist his move to York
82. September 5, 1776 [653]  
Letter from Northumberland County Committee to Lancaster Committee, reporting that William Chattam and James Parker, two supposed British soldiers supposed to be prisoners, have in Northumberland County "*behaved themselves in such Sort as to give great uneasiness, to the Good People of this County*" by arming themselves "*either to instigate the indians to Acts of Hostility, or to raise Dissentions among the Inhabitants*", which "may be attended with the most pernicious Consequences; therefore, asking that Chatter and Parker "*be immediately removed to Lancaster*"; signed by Chairman Robert Frute

83. September 9, 1776 [655]  
Letter from members of the Township Committee of Paxton and from James Burd, at Middletown, to William Atlee, chair of the Lancaster Committee, stating that Burd is sending to Lancaster prisoners William Chattam, and James Parker [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 15]
84. September 9, 1776 [661]  
Letter from Thomas Wharton, Chair of the Pennsylvania Committee to the Lancaster Committee, requesting assistance to ease the movement of wagons transporting hemp to the cordage factory owned by Messrs. James Craig and James Wharton, because of the importance of their manufacture of rope for the United States
85. September 10, 1776 [665]  
Letter from William Brown at Paxton to Lancaster Committee, stating the great need of salt in this township and asking for assistance "*to obtain as small suplay four us in this Township*"
86. September 16, 1776 [678]  
Letter from David Jenkins at Windsor Forge to Lancaster Committee, stating the need for salt; requesting an order to the Philadelphia Committee for the purchase of "*about 10 or 12 Bushels, which I shall be careful in distributing amongst my [?] men and the Neighbours as their Necessity may respectively Require*"
87. September 18, 1776 [682]  
Financial statement from Henry Small to Lancaster Committee, seeking payment for renting use of a horse for 11 days totaling £1.18.6
88. September 23, 1776 [694]  
Report from Sergeant James Moore of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment, prisoner in Lancaster jail, to William Atlee and the Lancaster Committee, promising in the future to stay out of trouble; thanking Atlee and his wife for former favors, and requesting consideration to allow him to work for Captain Gordon, who is coming soon from York [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 17]
89. October 9, 1776 [762]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office to Lancaster Committee, stating that a Captain Hesketh, a prisoner of war in Philadelphia, "*is in great Want of his Baggage*"; asking help in delivering a letter concerning the matter from him to Jasper Yeates, who is apparently in Pittsburgh; including a list of Hesketh's baggage
90. October 20, 1776 [787]  
Letter from Edward Thomps a prisoner at York, to William Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, requesting that his servant James McDonough be sent to him [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 6 document 19]

91. October 21, 1776 [795]  
Financial account to Lancaster Committee, showing that 353 bushels of fine salt and 125 bushels of coarse salt, purchased from Robert Eastburn had been delivered; total cost was £103.5.9
92. October 24, 1776 [802]  
Letter from George Ross at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, expressing his conviction that the new country's liberties cannot be safe "*but under a free & Good Government. Believe me that my first wish is that my country be free and that in every station they please to place me I will to the best of my judgment. do my utmost to serve them*"; stating that "*whatever may be the result of the determinations of the County of Lancaster I wish they may be communicated with expedition to the Neighbouring Countys*"

## Reel 7 (LC Reel 103)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 31 documents [Frames 1-276]  
**Volume 9/19** January 1, 1777 to March 31, 1777 23 documents [Frames 277-529]  
**Volume 9/20** April 1, 1777 to June 28, 1777 23 documents [Frames 530-770]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 31 documents [Frames 1-276]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. November 2, 1776 [3]  
Resolution from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, requiring county committees housing prisoners of war to submit returns of prisoners monthly  
[**Note:** See the note after Reel 4 document 1 for clarification on the *various names of the Lancaster Committee.*]
2. November 4, 1776 [10]  
Letter from David Jenkins at Windsor Forge to Lancaster Committee, requesting the allowance of salt for Caernarvon Township [near modern day Morgantown, Pennsylvania] to be sent so that it can be distributed

3. November 4, 1776 [12]  
Letter from George Ross to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*I have the pleasure of informing you that All have now hopes of seeing a happy Constitution settled for our distracted State*"; with details of the political debate; positive news of Continental control of Ticonderoga and of the condition of General Washington's army
4. November 12, 1776 [39]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, forwarding copies of important intelligence received from Lancaster County battalion colonels, with list of 11 items [not microfilmed here] [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 5]
5. November 14, 1776 [42]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, requesting that enclosed letters be distributed to the proper commanding officers of the various battalions in Lancaster County, with a list of 11 recipients [not microfilmed here]
6. November 15, 1776 [48]  
Letter from John Jamison and Abraham Scott to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, requesting delivery of the salt allowance for Mount Joy Township [adjacent to Elizabethtown, northwest of Lancaster] [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 6]
7. November 15, 1776 [50]  
Letter from Richard Peters, Secretary at the War Office [administrative arm of the Board of War] to Lancaster Committee, stating that the Board of War "*have received Information that many of the British Prisoners of War, residing in the different Parts of the United States, are not only extremely insolent but are guilty of Practices of a very dangerous tendency*", including conveying secret intelligence and spreading false rumors; stating a policy of cracking down on such practices
8. November 16, 1776 [64]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, enclosing letters to commanding officers of the militia in Lancaster County; requesting that they be forwarded to the appropriate officers, with a list of 11 recipients [not microfilmed here]
9. November 19, 1776 [75]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office to Pennsylvania Committee, concerning General Washington's request of Congress "*that all British Prisoners of War should be Collected and sent to Fort Lee in New Jersey to be Exchanged*"; instructing the Committee to request that all affected Pennsylvania counties be told to respond

10. November 20, 1776 [80]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, enclosing the War Office's instructions concerning British prisoners of war [see document 9]; instructing Lancaster County to comply
11. November 22, 1776 [90]  
Letter from Reading Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning the movement of prisoners under instructions from the War Office [manuscript as microfilmed too ink-smudged to be read easily]
12. November 22, 1776 [94]  
Orders from Owen Biddle, Chairman of Pennsylvania Committee, to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, to march Lancaster County prisoners of war to the fort at Elizabethtown, instead of Fort Lee, New Jersey, since Fort Lee [across the Hudson River from upper Manhattan Island] had been evacuated [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 10]  
[Note: Elizabeth Town is today's Elizabeth, New Jersey. Hereafter, in this Reel, the place name Elizabeth refers to Elizabeth, New Jersey.]  
[Note: After Fort Lee fell and the British settled into New York as their military headquarters, **Elizabeth** became one of the most important locations for American incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, in New Jersey just across the harbor from New York. Elizabeth served as a primary conduit through which prisoners of war held by the British (in New York and Long Island) and those held by the Americans (primarily in Philadelphia, Lancaster, Reading, York, Lebanon, and Easton, Pennsylvania plus, Winchester, Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland).]
13. November 24, 1776 [98]  
Consent for payment to three soldiers to cover their costs to go from Lancaster to Philadelphia to rejoin the 3rd Virginia Regiment, to be paid out of Lancaster Committee public funds; signed by Lancaster Committee members Matthias Slough, Adam Reigart and Christopher Crawford
14. November 25, 1776 [101]  
Letter from Thomas Armor of the York Committee to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*part of the Privates & Emigrants Prisoner here*" are being sent to Lancaster
15. November 25, 1776 [105]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, enclosing letters to the various commanding officers in Lancaster County, with a list of 11 recipients [not microfilmed here]

16. November 26, 1776 [109]  
Letter from Gabriel Morrison, Daniel McConnell, and Richard Free of the Colerain Township Committee to Lancaster Committee, requesting that the township's salt allowance be delivered
17. November 30, 1776 [119]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, reiterating urgently that the prisoners at Lancaster be sent to New Jersey; followed by  
December 15, 1776  
List of six sources of wagons [presumably to transport the prisoners] with costs and total charges for various numbers of days
18. December 3, 1776 [127]  
Copy of letter from Lancaster Committee to 11 colonels of Lancaster militia, reiterating the urgency of complying with the order to transport prisoners
19. December 5, 1776 [130]  
Letter from Philip Greenwalt and John Thome of Lebanon Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, concerning the transport of baggage belonging to fugitive prisoners and payment for the transport [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 11]
20. December 8, 1776 [137]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*You will please to forward the enclosed to the Co<sup>d</sup>. Of Militia in your County immediately The enemy are expected at Trenton to night, if succour does not arrive in a few Days this City must fall into their Hands*" with list of 11 Colonels to whom the enclosed is to be sent [letters not microfilmed here]
21. December 9, 1776 [140]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, stating that it is sending "*a quantity of Gun Powder to your Care. You will therefore provide a suitable place for the same and place a Centinal over it, for its security*"
22. December 13, 1776 [152]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee to William Atlee, concerning expected engagement with the British enemy; expecting active involvement by the Lancaster militia; procuring wagons to convey prisoners' baggage; signed by Thomas Wharton, Jr., President [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 13]
23. December 16, 1776 [155]  
Letter from Lancaster Committee to William Augustus Atlee, stating that he should "*continue to furnish the few Prisoners who were left sick at the Barracks & women & Children with Provisions as heretofore at the Expence of the Continent*" [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 14]



24. December 16, 1776 [158]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, requesting that the enclosed letter be forwarded to militia commanding officers in the county; listing 11 Colonels to receive the letter [letter not microfilmed here]
25. December 18, 1776 [171]  
Letter from George Ross at Reading to Lancaster Committee [microfilm too light to read easily]
26. December 31, 1776 [197]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning how to manage the transport to and maintenance at Lancaster of German soldiers captured on December 26 [microfilm too light to read easily]; followed by December 31, 1776  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, thanking the town for providing wagons to transport stores; curtailing transporting more stores "*as our arms by the blessings of God has been attended with an unexpected success, and opens a more happy prospect to the friends of America which makes it unnecessary to remove any more Stores*" [both letters microfilmed twice] [listed also in Atlee papers, Reel 7 document 16]
27. December [?], 1776 [205]  
Copy [unsigned] of letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning having received \$15,000 "*for the purpose of advancing the Militia a Month pay*" and for other expenses of the Lancaster Committee; concerning commissary needs to provide rations; concerning supplies of arms and powder; concerning other related matters
28. 1776-1777 [233]  
Financial account for payment to "*poor Families gone into actual Service*" with dates of payment from August 13, 1776 to February 21, 1777, including names, townships, and amounts paid in Pounds
29. [?] 1776 [268]  
Petition fragment from six members of Lancaster Committee to Continental Congress, seeking regulations for guidance in situations of apprentices being called into military service, leaving their masters without the labor assistance they need
30. [?] 1776 [272]  
Letter from Elizabeth Stevenson to Lancaster Committee, seeking subsistence for her husband, Joseph Stevenson, who "*is confined in the Guard hous and has Been so Ever since Last Friday and has had Nothing allowed to Subsist on But what I have taken to him*"; stating that she cannot afford to support him, since she has three small children and is herself disabled

31. [?] 1776 [275]  
Letter from James Walker to Lancaster Committee, seeking clemency as “a  
*poore Old man in Extremity and gentlemen I own that, I have committed a fault  
but I am in hops that You will be pleasd to Excuse me as I was in Liquor and the  
first Crime that ever the Degreading world Can upbreade me with*”

**Volume 9/19** January 1, 1777 to March 31, 1777 23 documents [Frames 277-529]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

32. January 1, 1777 [285]  
Letter from Lebanon Safety Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, concerning charges against Matthew McHugh, which they support  
[**Note:** See the note after Reel 7 document 1 above on the various titles of the Lancaster Committee and the Pennsylvania Committee.]
33. January 1, 1777 [288]  
Petition from Jacob Longanecker at the Lancaster Jail to the Lancaster Committee, stating that he was misunderstood while talking with a man who was advocating loyalty to Britain and was arrested; stating that he “*is an Old and infirm man and therefore Unable to bear the hardships of Confinement long*”; therefore, requesting release; followed by  
January 1, 1777  
Document of appearance bond for Longanecker, Peter Bachman, and David Hays and another on the same page for John Williams and William Allen, signed by William Atlee
34. January 3, 1777 [296]  
Letter from Frederick [Maryland] Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning the death of a person from Frederick in Lancaster with a suggestion of involvement of enemies of America; requesting that the matter be investigated

35. January 5, 1777 [303]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to William Atlee, Chairman of Lancaster Committee, stating having been informed that "*Hessian Prisoners who are sent to Lancaster have in their possession a large Quantity of Plate Watches & other Effects which they have plundered from the Inhabitants of Jersey*"; stating that, if true, the property must be secured from the prisoners and sent back to their owners, in a way that the prisoners will understand it to be justice; followed by January 5, 1777  
Memo, apparently attached to the letter, stating that "*We have no certain Accounts from our Army, but are informed that General Washington has defeated a part of the enemy near Princeton, and pushed on for Brunswick—And that part of the Enemy who took possession of Trenton retreated to Princetown and it is said took possession of it after General Washington left it.—We have since no Accounts from them*"
36. January 10, 1777 [328]  
Address from Lancaster Committee to German prisoners, concerning the immorality of plundering and the need to give up their plunder to be returned to the owners
37. January 14, 1777 [342]  
Petition of certain militia officers to Lancaster Committee concerning unpaid salaries for Associator soldiers, who are refusing to march
38. January 17, 1777 [345]  
Letter from John Hubley at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, informing them that "*whenever a sufficient number of Men have engaged for Guards, upon your recommendations [the Pennsylvania Committee] will send Commissions to the Officers and in the mean Time will find some arms for that purpose which probably will want some repairs and can be done in Lancaster*"
39. January 21, 1777 [360]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Lancaster Committee, concerning the case of Jacob McHugh, referring it to be resolved by the Lancaster Committee, whether by continuing his confinement, releasing him on bail for good behavior, or discharging him
40. January 21, 1777 [356]  
Letter from the Continental Board of War at Baltimore to the Lancaster Committee, ordering them to accept Scotch prisoners under the charge of Major Campbell; signed by Joseph Nourse, clerk of the Board of War, including a list by rank of 39 prisoners plus 3 women and 3 children [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 22, and in Prisoner Lists Reel 7 document 6]

41. January 29, 1777 [388]  
Letter from Colonel B. Johnson at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, enclosing a list of soldiers who have deserted from several companies in his battalion; seeking assistance in apprehending them
42. January 31, 1777 [403]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office at Baltimore, to Lancaster Committee, stating that prisoners of war are to be strictly confined because it *"may be of great Disservice to our Cause if suffered to have Communication with the People of the Country"*; stating that *"Many of the Germans have fallen off from that Patriotism & commendable Zeal for the Preservation of the Liberties of this Country, for which they were distinguished"*
43. January [?], 1777 [421]  
Copy of letter from Lancaster Committee to Continental Board of War, concerning prisoners of war Aeneas McLeod and Magnus Murcheson of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment,; concerning how the Lancaster officials had responded to the order that these prisoners were *"to be confined in some safe place under our care"*; reporting that, since the barracks was full of German prisoners, the two had been placed in the jail; with an account written at the end totaling £23.15.0
44. February 1, 1777 [424]  
Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee at Philadelphia to Atlee, as Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, requesting that Atlee send to them an accounting of what money he has paid to militia officers as pay for troops, along with receipts; signed by Thomas Wharton Jr., President [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 24]
45. February 3, 1777 [428]  
Letter from Isaac Melchor to the Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, requesting that German prisoners who are nailers be released go to Philadelphia to work, as approved by John Hubley of the Philadelphia Committee
46. February 10, 1777 [444]  
Letter from P. Marsteller at Lebanon to Lancaster Committee, concerning his interest in the trial of Jacob McHugh and of its significance for doing justice to uphold the American cause
47. February 14, 1777 [455]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office to Lancaster Committee, concerning approval and plans for Mr. Miller, the German paymaster, to travel from Lancaster to Philadelphia to provide pay for German officers using money *"brought from the Enemy"*

48. February [?], 1777 [489]  
Draft of letter from Lancaster Committee to Board of War, responding to the Board's order to keep prisoners closely confined, concerning issues raised by conflicting orders to release German prisoners for their labor [document 42]
49. March 3, 1777 [493]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that since the Lancaster barracks "*are rather Crowded...such of the Hessian Prisoners as can be usefully employd may be enlarged by you*", if they work and stay with such "*persons in your County as you can confide in to keep them comfortable and safe*"; requesting that returns of the names of prisoners so employed be sent to the Philadelphia Committee [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 27]
50. March 4, 1777 [500]  
Letter from William Moore, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Committee, to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating the Pennsylvania Committee's approval for qualified prisoners to work in the wire mill owned by James Brindley & Company, since "*this work will be of public utility*" [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 28]
51. March 15, 1777 [504]  
"Memorial" or statement [incomplete and without context] from members of the Lancaster Committee, stating that "*Joseph Richardsons horse shall be taken and be here after kept by Jacob Myer*" signed by Matthias Slough, Jacob Krug, George Moore, William Rawsman, and Adam Reigart
52. March 25, 1777 [520]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Committee to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, concerning delaying Christian Wertz' case since his life and property have been threatened following the "*late Riot at Lancaster*"
53. March 28, 1777 [524]  
Letter from Isaac Melchor to Lancaster Committee, stating that he is forwarding "*the remainder of the Hessian Prisoners*"
54. March 31, 1777 [527]  
Letter from Pennsylvania Council at Philadelphia to Atlee, Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that prisoner workers will be needed for construction projects being conducted by John Hubley; requesting that the Lancaster Committee "*not suffer any more of these people to enter into service of any kind until M<sup>r</sup> Hubley has had an opportunity of engaging as many of them as he shall have occasion for*"

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

55. April 2, 1777 [538]  
Memorial from Lancaster Committee to William Augustus Atlee, stating that "*We agree that you give Order to Capt. Weaver to let Patrick Gordon go out of the guard House for he is represented to be very lousy & unwell to work with Lewis Peters & George Lindeberger on their agreeing to produce him when called for by Mr. Cross or the official who confined him, no crime being alledged against him as Capt. Weaver says*"; signed by 7 individuals [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 32]  
[**Note:** See the note after Reel 7 document 1 above on the various titles of the Lancaster Committee and the Pennsylvania Committee.]
56. April 2, 1777 [541]  
Copy of order of the Board of War, conveyed by Richard Peters to the Lancaster Committee, stating that 50 German prisoners "*as are willing to engage for hire*" are to be made available to Colonel Benjamin Flower to be employed "*on the works he shall think necessary*"
57. April 3, 1777 [543]  
Letter from Owen Biddle, Chairman of the War Office, to Atlee as Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that, "*as we have every reason to believe the Enemy intend a Visit to this City*", the Continental Board of War has requested that wagons be acquired to move "*considerable quantity of valuable Stores at Philadelphia*" [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 33]
58. April 11, 1777 [564]  
Letter from Colonel Benjamin Flower to Lancaster Committee, requesting that 50 German prisoners be delivered for labor on works projects
59. April 16, 1777 [574]  
Letter from Lewis Nicola, Town Mayor of Philadelphia, to Lancaster Committee, stating that, as ordered by the Board of War, he is sending to Lancaster 105 British prisoners "*tomorrow*" and "*about the same number next day*" [see document 61 for list of probably these prisoners] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 35, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 10]

60. April 17, 1777 [577]  
Letter from Owen Biddle, Chairman of the War Office, to Atlee as Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that, as ordered by the Board of War, "*a number of Prisoners of War made at different times*" will be sent over two days to Lancaster [presumably the same prisoners as mentioned in document 59] [see document 61 for list probably of these prisoners] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 36, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 11]
61. April 18, 1777 [581]  
"*List of Prisoners Sent from the State Prison Philadelphia*" [probably the prisoners mentioned in documents 59 and 60] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 37, and in Prisoner Lists, Reel 7 document 12]
62. May 3, 1777 [626]  
Letter from four British prisoners of the 27<sup>th</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> Regiments, at the Lancaster jail, to Atlee as Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, objecting that they, as prisoners of war, are being confined in a jail like common criminals; seeking redress
63. May 5, 1777 [629]  
Letter from the Board of War at Philadelphia to Lancaster Committee, requesting that 20 German prisoners of war be sent to work at wire works near Reading
64. May 10, 1777 [640]  
Letter from the Board of War to Lancaster Committee, requesting that between 20 and 30 German prisoners of war at Lancaster be made available to work for Col. Thomas Marbray, who has contracted to deliver 100 tons of shot to the Continental Army
65. May 18, 1777 [655]  
Letter from Captain James Mercer to Lancaster Committee, expressing worries by the inhabitants that the guards might not be performing their duties well by allowing so many prisoners out at once
66. May 26, 1777 [664]  
Letter from Richard Peters of the Board of War to Lancaster Committee, ordering the Committee to permit forty Germans "*to contract & go with Daniel and Samuel Hughes who are employed in casting Cannon for the States*"
67. May 27, 1777 [667]  
Petition from Moses Holt [evidently a prisoner] at Lancaster to Lancaster Committee, seeking permission to move to lodging in a private house in Lancaster, provided he check in with the guard officer once every 24 hours

68. May 29, 1777 [674]  
Letter from Robert Bache, Chairman of the Board of War, to Lancaster Committee, requesting that Robert Smith and John Smith of Chester County be allowed to hire three German prisoners
69. May 22, 1777 [714]  
Letter from Nicola Lewis, Philadelphia Mayor, to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*By order of Genl. Schuyler Jr. [?] 39 British Prisoners of War, I have orderd three days rations for the party to serve on the march*"; requesting that Lancaster supply the rations for their return
70. June 2, 1777 [717]  
Letter from E. Wood, for Ross & Ege company, at Mary Ann Furnace, York County, to Lancaster Committee, sending four German prisoners who have been working for Ross & Ege to return to the Lancaster barracks "*where they Came from*", and requesting that "*all good People*" let the party pass
71. June 6, 1777 [720]  
Letter from Valentine Eckert to Lancaster Committee, stating that "*We are in want of a few more Hessians, 5 or 6 good working Men, the Order will still not be completed, but hope those will be sufficient*"
72. June 13, 1777 [731]  
Letter from E. Wood for Ross & Ege at Mary Ann Furnace, to Lancaster Committee, requesting permission to return two German prisoners to the Lancaster barracks who have "*been at work here some time and is desirous to see his Friends in the Barracks*", and requesting their passage to get there
73. June 19, 1777 [750]  
Petition from [apparently] 23 British prisoners [not named] at the Lancaster jail to Lancaster Committee, seeking to be transferred from the jail to the Barracks, concluding their petition by stating that "*and the gale is very Sickley*"
74. June 23, 1777 [753]  
Order from Richard Peters of the Board of War to Lancaster Committee, permitting John Lardner to employ temporarily three or four German prisoners at his slitting mill [mill for slitting iron bars into rods]
75. June 26, 1777 [761]  
Statement from Captain William Chambers of the Continental Army, to Lancaster Committee, concerning the case of Andrew O'Brien, a sergeant in his company, who had been confined in the Lancaster jail on a charge of rape



76. June 28, 1777 [764]  
 Petition from prisoners of war William Brandson and Samuel Hall of the Royal Train of Artillery, at the Lancaster barracks, to Lancaster Committee, requesting a pass allowing them occasional permission to visit the town socially; note on reverse side "*not allowed*"
77. June 28, 1777 [767]  
 Letter from Lancaster Committee to the Pennsylvania delegation in the Continental Congress, stating that the committee members have been serving for a long time, since October 1775, and exercising power for a longer period than constitutionally wise, while local affairs, especially in the judiciary, have been neglected; wishing to be relieved and replaced

## Reel 8 (LC Reel 104)

### Summary Contents:

|                    |  |             |                  |
|--------------------|--|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/21</b> | July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777     | 1 document  | [Frames 1-203]   |
| <b>Volume 9/22</b> | October 1, 1777 to December 24, 1777   | 2 documents | [Frames 204-477] |
| <b>Volume 9/23</b> | January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778      | 0 documents | [Frames 478-678] |
| <b>Volume 9/24</b> | (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 | 0 documents | [Frames 679-866] |

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

|                    |                                    |            |                |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| <b>Volume 9/21</b> | July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777 | 1 document | [Frames 1-203] |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. August 8, 1777 [46]  
 Recommendation from the [Lancaster] Grand Jury to the Lancaster Committee, stating that they have examined the prisoners of war confined in the Lancaster jail and that "*with one Voice Promise Good Behavior for the future and Pray they May be Relived and their full Provisions Allow<sup>d</sup>*"; signed by seven individuals, all agreeing to the statement

**Volume 9/22** October 1, 1777 to December 24, 1777 2 documents [Frames 204-477]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

2. [?] 1777 [472]  
Petition from the Officers of several Lancaster County Militia battalions to the Lancaster Committee, seeking justice and promises kept to officers serving in the militia; signed by 23 individuals
3. [?] 1777 [461]  
Petition from Catherine Colp, wife of Andreas Colp, along with other Earl Township inhabitants, to Lancaster Committee, stating that Andreas is now held for desertion in the Lancaster jail, pleading poverty and requesting that Andreas be released; stating that he is willing to serve in the militia; signed by six individuals

**Volume 9/23** January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778 0 documents [Frames 478-678]

**Volume 9/24** (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 0 documents [Frames 679-866]

**Note:** No Committee Papers are found in **Reel 9 through Reel 13** (LC Reels 105 through 109 and **Volumes 9/24** (end) through **9/36**).

# **Transcripts of Lancaster Committee of Safety Records** **in the Peter Force Collection, Series 7E** **Annotated List of Contents of Documents in Item 68**

## **Reel 1 of 1** (LC Reel 16)

### **Itemized, Annotated Contents:**

**Note:** This reel contains transcripts in LC Items 60 continued through 70. Only Item 68 pertains to the Lancaster Committee of Safety.

**Item 68** June 12, 1774 to June 28, 1776      79 documents      [Frames 559-649]

**Note:** Included with many of the transcripts is introductory and contextual information, written in the same hand as the transcriptions, which are identified as verbatim. In some cases, additional summary information is included about meetings and other matters that were reported in public newspapers.

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear below at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. December 23, 1845 [559]  
Receipt from Peter Force for \$32.00 paid to Simon Stevens for transcribing 51,870 words of manuscripts "*from the Minutes of Committee of Safety for Lancaster Co., Pa. 1774-77*"
2. June 12, 1774 [559]  
"*Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for the City of Philadelphia directed to the Freeholders & others Inhabitants of this Place*", calling for action since the Governor has declined to call the Assembly [see note after document 3 for conventions on naming of committees]
3. June 15, 1774 [560]  
As agreed to at meeting of inhabitants of Lancaster borough, "*to preserve the Constitutional Rights of Inhabitants of America*", the colonies must unite to obtain the repeal of the recent acts of Parliament relating to Boston and its harbor; establishing a Committee of Correspondence in Lancaster to forward this place's sentiments to the Philadelphia Committee; listing initial members of the Committee of Correspondence, including Edward Shippen, George Ross, Jasper Yeates, Matthias Slough, James Webb, William Atlee, William Henry, Ludwig Lauman, William Bausman, and Charles Hall

[Note: The Lancaster **Committee of Correspondence** was the first of a number of committees established as interim governmental bodies in Lancaster Borough and County. Since these were experimental, alternative means of democratic self-rule, created to supersede Britain's colonial governmental institutions, they evolved as needed for several years before new States of the United States began to develop their own local governmental institutions.

At different times in Lancaster during 1774 to 1778, committees functioned at both the borough and county levels or at only the county level. At times, tasks were divided among multiple committees usually called committees of correspondence, of safety, of inspection, or of observation. Or at times, a single umbrella committee with the catch-all title of **Committee of Correspondence, Safety, Inspection, and Observation** functioned in all these areas. For most of this time, a separately recognized Lancaster County **General Committee** functioned, with over 50 elected representatives, two or three elected representatives from each township and a larger number from Lancaster Borough. This body met infrequently, while ongoing business was attended to by a smaller Committee of Correspondence, Safety, or similar name. Sometimes this was called a **Standing Committee**. Members were selected by the General Committee. In the documents that follow, Committee names are generally identified as stated in the manuscript documents. When clear, more standard names are applied.

During this transition period, the main committee for the City of Philadelphia with whom the Lancaster committees communicated was called the **Philadelphia Committee of Correspondence**, hereafter called the Philadelphia Committee unless otherwise identified in a document. The main provincial committee was the **Pennsylvania Committee of Safety**, hereafter called the Pennsylvania Committee unless otherwise identified in a document.

4. [no date] [560]  
Letter from inhabitants of Lancaster to Philadelphia Committee, reporting creation of a Committee of Correspondence; requesting that the Philadelphia Committee keep the Lancaster Committee informed; signed by the new Lancaster Committee members
5. July 2, 1774 [561]  
Actions at Lancaster Committee meeting, including electing Shippen as chair, and resolving to attend a meeting announced in a circular letter from Philadelphia for representatives of all the counties and to call a Lancaster meeting before that
6. June 28, 1774 [561]  
Circular letter from Philadelphia Committee to Lancaster Committee, calling a meeting of county representatives on the Philadelphia courthouse square on July 15; sending letters to all counties encouraging each to form a committee; noting that the Pennsylvania Assembly expects to meet on July 18 concerning Indian disturbances; stating that "*all the Colonies from South Carolina to New Hampshire seem animated with one spirit in the Common Cause*"

7. July 9, 1774 [563]  
Actions of Lancaster inhabitants meeting chaired by George Ross, including adopting a resolution declaring allegiance to British King George III; asserting their rights under British law, stating that recent acts of Parliament are "*unconstitutional, unjust and oppressive*", stating the need for unity among the colonies; stating the need for a meeting in Philadelphia of representatives of the counties; stating the intention of supporting "*the measures which shall be adopted by the Members of the General Congress of the Colonies*", and vowing to support and to send aid to the people of Boston
8. September 9, 1774 [564]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster Committee; including receiving subscriptions for relief of poor inhabitants in Boston totaling £153.15.2
9. June 29, 1774 [564]  
Cover letter for the June 28 Circular letter [document 6]; followed by A note that the appointed people had attended the July 15 meeting in Philadelphia, whose proceedings and resolutions "*hath been inserted in the Public Papers*"
10. August 11, 1774 [565]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster Committee, concerning having sent a letter to Josiah and Robert Lockhart, accused of having purchased and paid duty on "*a quantity of Tea*", but, discovering that the tea chest in question had been purchased on the open market after having been seized by the customs house, so no duty was paid and the Lockharts were acquitted; followed by A note stating concerning actions, as reported in the papers, by the Continental Congress at its meeting of September 5, 1774, in Philadelphia, including a memorial to inhabitants of British American Colonies and a petition to the King
11. November 22, 1774 [565]  
Handbill from Lancaster Committee to county inhabitants, concerning a meeting proposed for December 10, 1774 to vote for members of a committee of county freeholders "*to observe the conduct of all Persons touching the General Association of the General Congress*" and making provisions for the election followed by  
Description of the election held in the borough and county of Lancaster, listing 75 candidates, 16 of whom were marked as having been elected
12. [no date] [566]  
Actions at a meeting of the Lancaster Committee, including dismissing complaints against a Mr. Francis, who had opened a dancing school in Lancaster, agreeing that his enterprise was legal under American and British law

13. December 22, 1774 [567]  
Letter from Philadelphia Committee to Lancaster Committee, expressing the necessity of convening a provincial convention of county committees; suggesting January 23 in Philadelphia as the date and place; signed by eight members of the Philadelphia Committee
14. January 2, 1775 [567]  
Letter from the Berks County Committee at Reading to the Lancaster Committee, stating that it will be attending the January 23 meeting in Philadelphia and naming its seven deputies
15. January 5, 1775 [568]  
Another letter from Berks County Committee to Lancaster Committee, enclosing extract of a meeting at which it resolved to attend the January 23 meeting; signed by four committee members; includes note that "*The above mentioned Extracts & are put among the Files of other Papers relative to the Committee*"
16. January 14, 1775 [568]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster Committee of Inspection [see note after document 3 for conventions used for naming committees], including re-electing Shippen as Chairman; approval to appoint deputies to attend the Provincial Convention on January 23, 1775; voting results by township recorded with 23 in favor, 4 against, and 5 absent; the committee then appointed eight deputies, of whom at least five were to attend
17. April 27, 1775 [569]  
Actions of Committee of Inspection and Observation, recognizing news that General Gage "*hath at length attacked the Inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay and killed and wounded many of them*", concluding that the British Parliament has "*determined by force of Arms to compel the Colonies to an abject submission to the late Acts of the British Parliament*"; calling a meeting of the Lancaster inhabitants to discuss the matter and consider steps that should be taken
18. March 13, 1775 [570]  
Actions of Committee of Observation, sending a notice of violation to Charles Hamilton, accused of having sold tea "*contrary to the Apreciation of the Continental Congress*" and summoning him to answer for his conduct; followed by  
March 30, 1775  
Letter of notice from Committee of Observation to Charles Hamilton; followed by  
March 30, 1775  
Sworn statement of Charles Hamilton stating that he had no intent to violate the Continental Congress' tea policy; followed by

Statement that Edward Shippen, George Ross, Jasper Yeates, William Atlee, Adam Simon Kuhn, and William Bausman “*or any four of them are appointed a standing Committee of Correspondence for the County of Lancaster*”; followed by Statement of support for George Ross’s conduct in the “*Interesting dispute*” in the provincial assembly concerning a petition to the King recommended by the Governor

19. May 1, 1775 [571]  
Actions at an “*Association of the Freeman and Inhabitants*” of Lancaster County, stating that “*Whereas, the Enemies of Great Britain and America Have resolved by force of Arms to carry in execution the most unjust Tyranical & Cruel Edicts of the British Parliament and reduce the Freeborn Sons of America to a State of vassalage*”, resolve “*To defend and protect the Religious and Civil Rights of this and our Sister colonies with our lives and fortunes*”; making plans to organize companies of officers and men to conduct this defense
20. May 3, 1775 [571]  
Resolution to submit to the “*General Congress of the Province of Pennsylvania*” “*an Account of the number of Whites, Men Women & Children in the respective Townships of this County*”; followed by  
Resolution to inventory and protect from sale all gunpowder in the County, for possible defense use
21. May 4, 1775 [572]  
Action at meeting of Committee of Observation, concerning agreements with Charles Hamilton, Josiah and Robert Lockhart, Matthias Slough, Christian Wirtz, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Beckham, and Mr. Graff to purchase their respective supplies of gunpowder
22. May 5 , 1775 [572]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Observation concerning purchase and storage of powder, lead, and other military stores [introductory summary followed by transcript]; concerning printing “*General Association Papers*” and “*Rules and Regulations of the Companies*” in English and in German; concerning election of William Atlee, Charles Hall, and Eberhart Michael to “*take charge of the Military Stores*”
23. May 8, 1775 [574]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Observation, expressing satisfaction at the appointment of James Wilson of Carlisle “*as one of the delegates (together with Doctor [Benjamin] Franklin...) for this Province in the general Continental Congress to be held at Philadelphia the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May Instant*”; sending an express letter of support to Wilson, via York, so “*that the Gentlemen there may have the agreeable intelligence from the Messenger*”

24. May 16, 1775 [575]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Observation concerning Paxton Township's recruitment of four companies and their desire for their own powder and lead; responded to by the Committee that all companies should follow the Committee's rules for disposition of lead and powder; concerning subscriptions collected and expected in support of poor inhabitants in Boston "*& places adjacent*", stating that those from Paxton Township should be forwarded to Lancaster
25. May 11, 1775 [575]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of the Township of Paxton resolving to request assistance from the Lancaster Committee in obtaining needed arms, especially powder; signed by Committee Chairman James Burd
26. May 23, 1775 [576]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster Committee of Inspection and Observation; contracting with John Henry for cast bullets in several different sizes; concerning making cartridges of the powder and lead available
27. May 29, 1775 [577]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Observation; concerning lack of a representative on the Committee from Upper Paxton Township and a request for one from the Township; concerning the conduct of elections in Townships and printing of handbills in English and German on this subject; concerning reported maltreatment and threats of violence of "*Persons whose religious Tenets forbid themselves forming themselves into Military Associations*" and the Committee's support for the rights and privileges of all people
28. June 2, 1775 [579]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Observation and Inspection of Lancaster Borough, concerning the Committee's understanding that its functioning has "*not proved satisfactory to diverse people*" and a decision to disband in favor of some other committee
29. June 10, 1775 [579]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Inspection for Lancaster County; James Burd chosen chairman; receiving election returns from several townships to be Committee representatives, including representatives from Lancaster Borough following resignation of its Borough Committee; electing members of "*a standing Committee of Correspondence and observation for the County of Lancaster*", including George Ross, William Henry, Edward Hand, John Hopson, Samuel Boyd, George Musser, James Jacks, John Witmer, Samuel Eberhard Gruber, William Patterson, Samuel Bear, and Valentine Brenison



30. June 16 & 17, 1775 [581]  
Actions at meeting of Committee of Observation for Lancaster County, resolving that all able-bodied men should seek to arm themselves for defense of the collective civil and religious rights; that those “*whose religious principals preclude them from taking up or furnishing Arms*” who are deemed able to do so, will pay £3.10 “*to be applied to such uses as this Committee shall think proper*”; adopting additional rules to manage the recruitment of Associator companies; communicating needed information to the Lancaster County Committee of Correspondence
31. June 16 & 17, 1775 [582]  
“*Extracts from the Notes and Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for the County of Lancaster*”, including actual language of resolutions from the meeting described above [document 30]; including a list of townships divided into clusters for organization of battalions
32. June 19, 1775 [584]  
Actions at meeting of County Committee of Correspondence, chaired by William Henry; resolving to revise minutes of the “*last County Committee in order to prepare them for the press*”
33. June 20, 1775 [585]  
Actions at meeting of County Committee of Correspondence and Observation; responding to Continental Congress’ June 14, 1775 resolution “*to raise 6 companies of expert Rifle men in this Province to serve in the American Continental Army*” by means of a letter of instructions sent to “*Lieut-Coll Patterson or Officer commanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Lancaster Associated Battalion*”; followed by  
Letter of instruction from the Committee of Correspondence and Observation to Lieutenant Colonel William Patterson
34. July 1, 1775 [586]  
Actions at meeting of County Committee of Correspondence; concerning a request from several religious societies of inhabitants seeking permission to request from the Continental Congress a more acceptable method (than the one selected by the Committee) for them to contribute toward protecting the rights and liberties of all inhabitants without violating their religious principles; agreeing with the sentiment of the request and resolving to communicate this issue to the townships and to the Continental Congress
35. July 1, 1775 [587]  
Minutes of the meeting described above [document 34] [incomplete]
36. July 1, 1775 [588]  
Another, complete copy of minutes of the meeting described above [documents 34, 35]

37. July 14, 1775 [589]  
Actions at meeting of County Committee of Correspondence, Major Edward Hand chairman; rewarding Patterson for "*his assistance in raising the Riffle Company*" now under Captain Matthew Smith's command, by giving him a "*good common Tent*"
38. July 24, 1775 [590]  
Actions at meeting of County Committee of Correspondence and Observation, arranging for a wagoner and team to carry baggage of the new rifle company on its march to the American camp near Boston
39. August 2, 1775 [591]  
Letter from County Committee to John Fleger, Constable of Sadsbury Township, requesting that he bring to Lancaster several men, reported to have interfered with recruitment of members for the Associator company in that township, to answer for their conduct; followed by  
August 21, 1775  
Complaint by three officers of the Sadsbury Township Associator company, against Robert Tweed and others who objected to the proceedings of electing officers and signing association papers
40. August 3, 1775 [594]  
Resolutions from an unidentified committee meeting [see document 42], resolving not to entertain any more questions about "*the Propriety of the Hand Bill of the Committee of Correspondence, who resigned on June last*"; requesting a list of names of persons "*who have contributed towards the Service of their Country in Money*"; seeking to resolve the unrest in Sadsbury Township by holding a new election for a township committee
41. August 4, 1775 [579]  
Resolutions from an unidentified committee meeting [see document 42], establishing a committee to "*value certain Rifles, in the Hands of M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Henry which shall or may be delivered out for the use of the Service of this Continent and make Report thereof*"; the resulting report was received and approved; seeking to document those who are "*non-associators*" as well as the names of those enrolled in each company recruited
42. August 3, 4, 1775 [595]  
"*Extracts from the Minutes of the Committee of Correspondence Observation & Inspection*" for Lancaster County [see documents 40, 41 for contents]; provided "*By order of the Committee, Committee Chamber, August 8<sup>th</sup> 1775*"

43. August 9, 1775 [596]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster County Committee of Correspondence, concerning allegations, which could not be proven and were denied, that Michael Kline knew a person who was organizing an alternative "*Ministerial Army*" and that he had spoken disrespectfully of the Lancaster Committee
44. August 21, 1775 [597]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster County Committee of Correspondence, responding positively to a request by the [Pennsylvania] Committee of Safety requesting that 200 pounds of gunpowder be supplied to the Virginia Commissioners for Indian Affairs
45. September 22, 1775 [597]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster County Committee of Correspondence, with large attendance, with William Henry elected chairman, concerning an unresolved dispute over election of officers for a certain battalion; decision to hold an election for a new committee on October 14; requesting that expenses of Associator companies be submitted to the Committee by October 3 for payment
46. October 3, 1775 [599]  
Actions at meeting of Lancaster County [General] Committee, selected chairman Emanuel Carpenter, deferring to the next committee a dispute between colonel Curtis Grubb and Major Dehap; establishing a committee to review the accounts of company officers; ordering proper minute taking; "*lending*" 300 wt. of gunpowder and 900 wt. of lead to Northumberland County, to be replaced by the Pennsylvania Committee; seeking to receive money paid in donations to Matthias Slough
47. November 8, 1775 [600]  
Actions taken by those chosen by the townships to serve on the Lancaster County [General] Committee, choosing Jasper Yeates as chairman and other leaders
48. November 9, 1775 [601]  
Actions taken by Lancaster County [General] Committee, including receiving a new return of members elected for Paxton Township; concerning responding to a letter of October 7, 1775 from the Pennsylvania Committee to the previous Lancaster Committee regarding provincial muskets; regarding the 600 arms and accoutrements to be supplied by the County; approval with three townships dissenting of making five pounds of public powder available to Henry Lericher, for which he will pay, pursuant to a petition from him; followed by November 9, 1775  
Draft letter to the Pennsylvania Committee concerning provincial muskets, which was approved by the Lancaster Committee

49. November 10, 1775 [603]  
Summary of actions taken by Lancaster County Committee, deciding that names of any gunsmiths refusing to help make arms needed for public use will be published in the Committee minutes and elsewhere as "*enemies of this Country*", and they will not be allowed to "carry on their trades" until they are willing to do the public work required; several gunsmiths appeared before the Committee and agreed to do the needed work; seeking a listing of "*such Persons, in their respective Townships as conscientiously scruple to take up arms*"; accepting the recent election results from Paxton Township; concerning keeping the keys to the public magazine and dispensing powder from it; identifying townships identified with each battalion being raised from Lancaster County
50. November 10, 1775 [605]  
Formal wording of actions taken by Lancaster County Committee in the meeting summarized above [document 49]
51. November 17, 1775 [607]  
Letter from Joshua Fisher enclosing a bill for 20 shillings dated July 20, 1775, concerning refusal to accept "*this sort of Money*" in payment, which the Committee interpreted as "*dangerous & injurious to the cause of Liberty and tends to depreciate the Currency of this Province*"; decision to send the letter and bill to the Lancaster Committee of Correspondence and the Philadelphia Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Observation; adoption of several rules to manage attendance and functioning of the Committee; recognizing a Lancaster Borough Committee as a Committee of Inspection, Observation, and Correspondence
52. November 10, 1775 [608]  
Additional actions taken by the Lancaster County Committee summarized above [document 49]
53. November 13, 1775 [610]  
Actions taken by the Subcommittee in Lancaster Borough, with George Ross serving as chairman, including promises by several gunsmiths to do work on making arms for the public need beginning on November 20, 1775
54. November 13, 1775 [611]  
Letter from Lancaster County Committee to the Philadelphia Committee of Inspection and Observation, cover letter for enclosed letter and bill from Joshua Fisher [document 51]; signed by George Ross

55. November 27, 1775 [612]  
Actions taken by Lancaster Committee of Observation and Correspondence, including steps to accommodate and provision some prisoners of war taken at St. Johns and just arrived at Lancaster by order of the Continental Congress, with a lack of direction from Congress on how to proceed or how costs will be paid; handling other local matters  
**[Note:** French **Fort St. Jean** (St. Johns in English) was a key fortification in the defense of Montreal. In fall 1775, Americans' first major military campaign of the Revolutionary War was aimed at Montreal. General Richard Montgomery's Continental troops besieged Fort St. Johns on September 17, it capitulated on November 3, and the Americans captured over 500 prisoners of war.
56. December 11, 1775 [614]  
Actions taken by Lancaster Committee of Observation and Inspection, concerning the making and delivery of needed arms
57. December 27, 1775 [615]  
Actions taken by Lancaster Committee of Correspondence and Observation, concerning payment for blankets and linen for newly arrived prisoners
58. August 4, 1775 [616]  
Tally of Committee vote on whether Mathias Slough should pay money he held [see document 46] to the Committee Treasurer "*tomorrow*" (August 5, 1775) or "*tomorrow week*; [close vote for "*tomorrow*"]
59. August 3, 1775 [617]  
Tally of Committee vote on whether a hand bill of resigned Committee members should "*be taken into Consideration at-all or not*", "*carried in the Negative*"
60. [no date] [617]  
Tally of Committee vote on whether names of people who have contributed money "*toward Service of this Continent*" along with dollar amounts should be given to the Committee; "*carried in the Affirmative*"
61. [no date] [618]  
Tally of Committee vote on whether Michael Kline should be sent for to answer questions of the Committee [almost unanimous affirmative vote]

62. January 3, 1776 [618]  
Minutes of Lancaster County Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence meeting, with William Atlee as chairman; concerning letter dated December 31, 1775, from Pennsylvania Council of Safety [the Pennsylvania Committee renamed] stating that German prisoners taken by General Washington on December 26 were ordered to be sent to Lancaster; that the Lancaster barracks should be "*put in a Condition to receive them immediately*"; concerning assigning guards for the new prisoners; concerning Captain John Rough, being sent to Lancaster "*as a person dangerous & inimical to the Cause of America*," be confined in the Lancaster County jail for examination; concerning other similar matters  
[Note: Minutes which follow use a variety of combinations of names used in this document to identify the same committee; hereafter, unless otherwise noted, it is called the Lancaster Committee.]
63. February 18, 1776 [620]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, concerning letter from the Board of War dated January 31, 1776 requiring that the prisoners of war be strictly confined and not freely communicating with local people, except for care in certain cases of illness, plus other orders for proper management of the prisoners, their wagons and baggage until their exchange; appointing and hiring William Atlee and Frederick Shaffer temporarily to supervise these management tasks; seeking to get James Wallace "*immediately to deliver to his late Servant Robert Stewart his freedom*"  
[Note: the Board of War was an arm of the Continental Congress.]
64. March 19, 1776 [622]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, concerning whether Adjutant Mingus [?] should "*be committed to the public Gaol of the County for trial*" by Colonel Antill, given the unsettled state of the public mind and possibility of their rioting; accepting Antill's recommendation that Mingus should be brought to justice in Philadelphia
65. March 1776 [624]  
Listing of "*Waggon's employed by the Committee for different Services*", with six separate entries with names, dates, destinations, and other information
66. March 16, 1776 [624]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, with Jasper Yeates as chairman, concerning the supply of and need for more gunpowder, with figures; resolving that tea should not be sold "*except for sick persons*"; decision on how to handle a possible violator of the ban; concerning the costs of maintaining prisoners of war in Lancaster; concerning response to Captains West and Hubley's letter of March 7, 1776, about the need for blankets for the Lancaster soldiers

67. March 19, 1776 [626]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, concerning letter dated March 14, 1776 from Pennsylvania Committee concerning the moving of officer prisoners of war from Lancaster, half to York and the other half to Carlisle; concerning requests for wagons to transport the baggage of these officer prisoners; concerning prisoner Captain Duncan Campbell's special case, including a letter on his behalf from John Hancock
68. March 20, 1776 [628]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting [no content is transcribed for this meeting, only the list of those present]
69. March 25, 1776 [629]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting; concerning requests for liberty from several British prisoners of war wishing to visit other prisoners in Reading who are relatives or connected to particular regiments; receiving election results from several townships; related matters
70. April 10, 1776 [631]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, concerning inquiries about the trades of prisoners of war for their possible paid employment at Philadelphia; concerning payments due to inhabitants who previously had housed prisoner of war officers sent to York or Carlisle
71. April 12, 1776 [631]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, approving letter to the Continental Congress concerning payments due to those who had housed officer prisoners of war; approving letter to Philadelphia Committee about trades of prisoners of war; approving letter to Pennsylvania Committee about making muskets and rifles; approving regulations suggested by some of the battalions of Associator soldiers to make them more effective; concerning an election to be held in Lancaster Borough on April 20
72. March 29, 1776 [634]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, with field officers of the County's battalions present, resolving that non-Associators should be made to give up their arms to Associator soldiers; resolving to make supplies of ammunition cartridges available to the battalions
73. April 16, 1776 [635]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, with Atlee as chairman, concerning a box of rifles plus bayonets and other accoutrements being carried in a wagon to Maryland, contrary to provincial policy; some of these arms to be purchased for public use in Lancaster; others to be allowed to be delivered to Maryland, including statements by Charles and Alex Hamilton concerning the boxes of arms

74. May 6, 1776 [637]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, with George Ross as chairman, approving election of officers by one of the County's battalions
75. May 7, 1776 [638]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, approving Curtis Grubb's request for a small quantity of sheet lead from the magazine for making cannon
76. June 7, 1776 [639]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee meeting, listing 57 attendees by township; no transcript of the meeting's content
77. June 8, 1776 [641]  
Minutes of Lancaster General Committee meeting, with Jasper Yeates as chairman, concerning a dispute between Yeates and William Henry with joint accusations of wrong-doing, which they later sought to disavow; followed by Supposed regulations about the organization of Lancaster's eight battalions; followed by  
Listing of 34 attendees from 13 townships plus Yeates as chairman; followed by Appointment of nine representatives (or any five of them) to the Provincial Convention scheduled for June 18, 1776; resolutions concerning other administrative matters
78. [no date] [646]  
Returns from borough and township elections with names of those elected; followed by  
Details of the election in Paxton Township and other election matters
79. June 28, 1776 [649]  
Minutes of Lancaster Committee, with Atlee serving as chair, concerning accounts for expenses totaling £534.7.2 from the Barracks Master, approved by the Committee to be forwarded to the Continental Congress



**Note: Item 69** in this Reel, not so identified but evidently consisting of Frames 650 through 663, contains transcripts of 15 letters, dated between September 14 and October 9, 1777. Nine of these were written by Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr. and five by Colonel Thomas Hartley, both officers of Continental Army units engaged in the Battles of Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown, which culminated in British occupation of Philadelphia. Hubley and Hartley wrote these as personal letters to Lancaster friends William Atlee and Paul Zantzinger. Hubley's letters were also addressed to his brother John Hubley in Lancaster. Originals of 10 of these letters are contained in the Atlee Papers found in Series 9 of the Peter Force Collection, in DLAR Reel 8. A few additional original letters by Hubley and Hartley found in Series 9 are not transcribed in Series 7E, and a few transcribed letters found in Series 7E are not found among the original letters in Series 9.

The fifteenth transcribed letter in Item 69 was written by Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading to Atlee, informing him that the Board of War had ordered 222 prisoners of war in Northampton County to be sent to Virginia. The microfilmed original of this letter (document 16) plus additional Haller letters are found in the Atlee Papers in Series 9 of the Peter Force Collection, in DLAR Reel 8.

**Note: Item 70** in this reel, not so identified but evidently consisting of Frames 665 through 669, contains a January 1778 letter from the Marquis de Lafayette to Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr., which is summarized as follows:

January 1778 [668]

Letter from the Marquis de Lafayette at "*The twenty*" [camp?] to Lieutenant Colonel Adam Hubley Jr. at Lancaster; instructing Hubley to continue work on "*the piquets*" and that "*When you will let me know that the piquets are fare advanced to be done (and certainly it wont be long) then I shall come immediately and we will regulate together this matter*"

**[Note:** Given the date, this work was probably being done at the Continental Army's winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.]

## **Lancaster Prisoner-of-War Lists** **in The Peter Force Collection, Series 9** **Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents**

**Note:** These Prisoner Lists are found scattered among many other documents in Series 9 of The Peter Force Collection, in the Library of Congress (LC) Manuscript Division. LC has microfilmed Series 9 in 17 reels, numbered 96 through 112. The David Library owns microfilm copies of LC Reels 96 and 98 through 109 (which it has identified as DLAR Reels 1 through 13, catalogued as Microfilm Set 664).

**Note:** All of the Prisoner Lists microfilmed in Series 9 and found using the LC General Index for Series 9 are included in this Finding Aid. These scattered documents are best found in their microfilm reel using each document's Frame Number.

**Note:** No Prisoner Lists are found in **Reel 1 through Reel 5** (LC Reels 96 and 98 through 101), of the microfilmed Peter Force Collection, Series 9, owned by the David Library of the American Revolution. LC Reel 97 (1725 through 1752) is not included in the microfilmed reels owned by the David Library.

### **Reel 6 (LC Reel 102)**

#### **Summary Contents:**

|                    |                                    |             |                   |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/15</b> | January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776    | 1 document  | [Frames 1-247]    |
| <b>Volume 9/16</b> | June 7, 1776 to July 30, 1776      | 1 document  | [ Frames 248-510] |
| <b>Volume 9/17</b> | August 1, 1776 to October 28, 1776 | 3 documents | [Frames 511-821]  |

#### **Itemized, annotated contents:**

|                    |                                 |            |                |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| <b>Volume 9/15</b> | January 1, 1776 to May 28, 1776 | 1 document | [Frames 1-247] |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------|----------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. April 11, 1776 [171]  
Report of Subcommittee on Tradesmen in Prison to Lancaster Committee, providing a list of tradesmen by trade, name, and numbers of persons, including 42 trades with between 12 and 1 numbers of persons each and a total of 98 people [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 6 document 17]

[**Note:** Throughout Reel 6, Lancaster Committee refers to the **Lancaster Committee of Safety**. For other titles used for this committee, see Committee Papers, note at Reel 4 document 1.]

**Volume 9/16** June 7, 1776 to July 30, 1776      1 document      [ Frames 248-510]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

2.      July 15, 1776      [398]  
List identified by archivist as of "Great Britain Soldiers permitted to work", identified as "*in Committee*" but not revealing which Committee of Safety in what location; listing names of 78 soldiers permitted to work for named individuals, along with their trades

**Volume 9/17** August 1, 1776 to October 28, 1776      3 documents      [Frames 511-821]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

3.      August 6, 1776      [537]  
Letter from R. Potts, Clerk of the Committee at Frederick, Maryland, to Lancaster Committee, informing them that several officers held at Frederick had been paroled and that they were asking for return of their servants; including a list of eight officers and their servants [listed also in Committee Papers, Reel 6 document 62]
4.      August 27, 1776      [625]  
List of prisoners by name and "*for what confind*"; may be for Lancaster County jail but not so identified; none seem to be prisoners of war

5. October 21, 1776 [797]  
List by name of 31 prisoners who served in Rogers' Corps taken by Colonel Haselet  
[Note: The Colonel is likely **John Haslet** of the 1<sup>st</sup> Delaware Regiment, who several months later was killed in the Battle of Princeton. Rogers' Corps refers to a loyalist successor corps to Major Robert Rogers' "**Rogers' Rangers**," who were uniquely trained and effective in conjunction with the regular British Army in North America in the 1750s and 1760s.

## Reel 7 (LC Reel 103)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 4 documents [Frames 1-276]  
**Volume 9/19** January 1, 1777 to March 31, 1777 5 documents [Frames 277-529]  
**Volume 9/20** April 1, 1777 to June 28, 1777 4 documents [Frames 530-770]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/18** November 2, 1776 to December 31, 1776 4 documents [Frames 1-276]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. November 11, 1776 [36]  
Archivist folder label: "*Return of the Waldeckers and their Employers*" for 54 German prisoners of war held in several Pennsylvania counties, including Lancaster County; includes dates [of employment?], names of prisoners and of their employers, and the county of each  
[Note: **Waldeck** was a recognized political entity in politically fragmented Germany in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. As an ally of the British, Waldeck sent military forces to North America, including the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Waldeckers, to fight alongside the British Army during the Revolutionary War. Most of its soldiers were captured by Continental forces at Trenton and Princeton at the beginning of 1777. Several other German principalities, including Hessen-Cassel and Hessen-Hanau, also sent troops. Since at least six German states sent troops, to call them all "Hessians" is inaccurate. Also, to refer to them as "mercenaries" is inaccurate since most of the troops were regular army soldiers from their respective countries rather than individual "soldiers of fortune."]

2. November 14, 1776 [45]  
List of soldier prisoners [not prisoners of war] in the Lancaster County jail with trial dates
3. November 15, 1776 [54]  
“*Names of the Regulars confin’d in Lancaster Goal with the Number of days each person was confin’d*”; also including dates confined and discharged; including 79 named prisoners [not prisoners of war]; three pages not microfilmed contiguously; with a total of 718 prisoner days of confinement; followed by Library of Congress note: “*Return of Prisoners made to the State Council of Safety* [pursuant to] *the letter of November 2, 1776 from the [Pennsylvania] Council to the Committee of Lancaster*” [which ordered each county to report monthly on prisoners in jails]; a single-page accounting list of prisoners by name, “*when Committed*”, “*when expird*”, “*n<sup>o</sup> of days in*”, and calculated amounts @ 6 pence per prisoner per day totaling £46.13.8 [three of the manuscript pages have holes and blots, reducing their readability]  
[Note: Throughout Reel 7, Lancaster Committee (or Committee of Lancaster) refers to the **Lancaster Committee of Safety**. For other titles used for this committee, see Committee Papers, note at Reel 4 document 1.]
4. December [?], 1776 [212]  
“*Return of [sick] men women and Children* [of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Regiments] *left in Lancaster* [barracks]”

**Volume 9/19** January 1, 1777 to March 31, 1777    5 documents    [Frames 277-529]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

5. January 7, 1777 [307]  
Lists of German soldier prisoners of war, recorded by company and by name; including lists for 18 companies for 880 prisoners
6. January 21, 1777 [356]  
Letter from the Board of War at Baltimore to the Lancaster Committee, ordering them to accept Scotch prisoners under the charge of Major Campbell; signed by Joseph Nourse, clerk of the Board of War, including a list by rank of 39 prisoners plus 3 women and 3 children [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 22 and in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 40]  
[Note: Throughout Reel 7, Lancaster Committee refers to the **Lancaster Committee of Safety**. For other titles used for this committee, see Committee Papers, note at Reel 4 document 1.]

7. January 23, 1777 [369]  
List of 10 German soldier prisoners of war, recorded by name and profession
8. January [?], 1777 [413]  
List of 211 German soldier prisoners of war, recorded by name and profession for four companies
9. February 10, 1777 [441]  
Summary return of prisoners of war at the Lancaster Barracks, including 843 "*in good health*", 61 "*sick*", 1 "*absent by permission*", 5 "*inlisted into our service*", 1 "*with the Carpenter*", and 2 "*women*"

**Volume 9/20** April 1, 1777 to June 28, 1777      4 documents      [Frames 530-770]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

10. April 16, 1777 [574]  
Letter from Lewis Nicola, Town Mayor of Philadelphia, to Lancaster Committee, stating that, as ordered by the Board of War, he is sending to Lancaster 105 British prisoners "*tomorrow*" and "*about the same number next day*" [see document 12 for list of probably these prisoners] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 35, and in Committee Lists, Reel 7 document 59]
11. April 17, 1777 [577]  
Letter from Owen Biddle, Chairman of the War Office, to Atlee as Chairman of the Lancaster Committee, stating that, as ordered by the Board of War, "*a number of Prisoners of War made at different times*" will be sent over two days to Lancaster [presumably the same prisoners as mentioned in document 10] [see document 12 for list of probably these prisoners] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 36, and in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 60]
12. April 18, 1777 [581]  
"*List of [107] Prisoners Sent from the State Prison Philadelphia*" [probably the prisoners mentioned in documents 10 and 11] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 7 document 37, and in Committee Papers, Reel 7 document 61]
13. April 19, 1777 [585]  
List of 61 German soldier prisoners of war, including name, company, regiment, occupation, and employer's name

## Reel 8 (LC Reel 104)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/21** July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777 11 documents [Frames 1-203]  
**Volume 9/22** Oct. 1, 1777 to Dec., 1777 16 documents [Frames 204-477]  
**Volume 9/23** January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778 6 documents [Frames 478-678]  
**Volume 9/24** (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 14 documents [Frames 679-866]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/21** July 6, 1777 to September 29, 1777 11 documents [Frames 1-203]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. July 14, 1777 [25]  
List of 65 prisoners of the American Navy held at Lancaster, including names and ship for each
2. August 15, 1777 [60]  
Return of 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment prisoners of war at Lancaster, including 87 live prisoners and 4 who have died
3. August 16, 1777 [64]  
Return of 50 Royal Highland Regiment prisoners of war at Lancaster, plus 3 who have died and 1 deserter
4. August 25, 1777 [78]  
Summary list by regiment of "*Hessian* [and Waldecker] *Prisoners sent* [from Lancaster] *to Lebanon with Capt. Allenbrook*" for 341 prisoners
5. August 27, 1777 [84]  
Lists of German soldier prisoners of war, including company and name, who were being sent from Lancaster to Lebanon by Captain Philip Weiser of Lancaster, including 6 companies and a total of 123 prisoners
6. August 27, 1777 [88]  
Lists of German soldier prisoners of war, including company and name, who were at Lancaster, including 5 companies and a total of 94 prisoners

7. September 20, 1777 [154]  
 Lists of German soldier prisoners of war, including company and name, numbering reportedly 300 [ink in this microfilmed list is very light and difficult to read]; followed by  
 Undated cover letter signed by Isaac Lane, stating that the prisoners were delivered to him at Lebanon by order of William Atlee at Lancaster, and that he was to deliver them to Winchester, Virginia by order of the Board of War
  
8. September 27, 1777 [185]  
 List of 50 British prisoners of war at the Lancaster barracks, including regiment and name plus remarks
  
9. September-November 1777 [191]  
*"List of [16] Grenadiers & Yagers and their Employers"* in Pennsylvania, including for each a date, the prisoner's name, the employer's name, and the place of employment
  
10. September-November 1777 [194]  
*"List of [33] Hessian Prisoners, belonging to the Artillery Corps and a Return of their Employers"*, including for each a date, the prisoner's name, the employer's name, and the place of employment
  
11. September-November 1777 [197]  
*"List of [113] Hessian Prisoners who were permitted to work and a Return of their Employers"* for the Regiment of Lossberg, including for each a date, the prisoner's name, the employer's name, and the place of employment; followed by  
*"List of [129] Hessian Prisoners now at work with the People & a Return of their Employers"* for the Regiment of Knyphausen, including for each a date, the prisoner's name, the employer's name, and the place of employment; followed by  
*"List of [103] Hessian Prisoners who went out to work and the Names of their Employers"* for the Regiment of Rall, including for each a date, the prisoner's name, the employer's name, and the place of employment

**Volume 9/22** Oct. 1, 1777 to Dec., 1777      16 documents      [Frames 204-477]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

12. October 2, 1777 [209]  
*"List of [British] Prisoners of War delivered by Colonel Sedman at Lancaster"*, including regiment, battalion, and names totaling 133 prisoners



13. October 2, 1777 [211]  
*"List of British [sent?] with Capt Jacob Weaver from Lancaster for Virginia"* as ordered by the Board of War, including regiment and names totaling 43 prisoners
14. October 3, 1777 [217]  
*"Mens Names & trade belonging to Each Corps, Now Prisoners of War"* for 75 prisoners
15. October 5, 1777 [224]  
*"A list of prisoners Sent from Reading to Lancaster"*, including 13 named prisoners plus 6 servants, one of them named
16. October 6, 1777 [226]  
*"List of British Prisoners brought to Lancaster under the conduct of W. Joseph Billings"*, including name, rank, regiment for some, and additional information for some for 19 prisoners
17. October 7, 1777 [232]  
*"List of Prisoners of Warr sent from Lancaster for Virginia by order of the Board of Warr under the care of Cap<sup>t</sup> George Franciscus"*, including name and regiment for 124 prisoners
18. October 8, 1777 [238]  
*"List of British [prisoner of war] Officers &c. brought to Lancaster from Reading...on their way to Virginia under the Escort of Samuel Homann"*, including name, rank, and regiment for 5 named prisoners plus 6 servants not named; signed by Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster William Atlee [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 24]
19. October 8, 1777 [240]  
*"List of Hessian [plus two Waldecker] Prisoners who were permitted to work with the following Persons, by Order of the Honourable William Attlee Esq<sup>r</sup>."*, including prisoner names, their regiments, and the person for whom each was working for 37 prisoners; dated at Lebanon and identified as prisoners sent to Lancaster to work
20. October 20, 1777 [322]  
*"List of British & Hessian prison Prisoners To be Sent to Lancaster [from] Reading"*, including name and regiment for 41 prisoners, 4 of whom are identified as having been *"left at Reading"*
21. October 22, 1777 [327]  
*"List of Prisoners brought to Lancaster from Reading under the Escort of Lieut<sup>t</sup>. Cha<sup>s</sup>. Gobin"*, including name and regiment for 37 prisoners

22. November 1, 1777 [350]  
*"List of British prisoners of Warr at Lancaster"*, including regiment, name, when taken and where taken for 56 prisoners
  
23. December 7, 1777 [378]  
*"A List of British Prisoners removed from Reading for Lancaster, under Conduct of Capt<sup>n</sup> Philip Krick"*, including name, regiment, when taken, and where taken for 62 prisoners, 3 of whom are identified as having been *"left at Reading"* [list continued in document 24]
  
24. December 9, 1777 [386]  
 Continuation with 63<sup>rd</sup> numbered prisoner of list started on December 7 [document 23], listing 37 additional prisoners
  
25. December 11, 1777 [392]  
*"Sick Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War Lancaster Goal"*, including name and regiment, for 10 prisoners, plus 3 additional named prisoners identified as *"unfit"*
  
26. December 13, 1777 [399]  
*"List of British Prisoners of Warr sent from Lancaster...under the Escort of Capt. Samuel Davis with a Party of the Lancaster County Militia for Virginia"*, including name and regiment for 92 prisoners
  
27. 1776-1783 [421]  
 Archivist heading page *"Prisoners of War Lists & agreements of Exchange"*, for Hessian, Waldecker, and British prisoners of war captured beginning in late 1776, including the following items:  
 January 20, 1783  
 Letter from Assistant Secretary of War William Jackson to the President of New Hampshire, enclosing copies of exchange agreements *"to settle an exchange of Prisoners of War in the Southern Department"*; followed by  
 Copies of texts of several exchange agreements, each identified with a date in October or November 1782, each including the name or lists of names of prisoners affected; followed by  
 Summary list of occupations of British prisoners for 116 prisoners; followed by  
 Summary tally list of occupations of German prisoners for 361 prisoners; followed by  
 Summary tally list of occupations of British prisoners not totaled; followed by  
 List of prisoners of war including regiment, name, when taken, where taken, "[arrived at] Lancaster," and "removed" for 224 German prisoners and 63 Waldecker prisoners; followed by  
 A second copy, in a different [archivist?] hand, of the previous list

[**Note:** Born in England and brought up in South Carolina, **William Jackson** was an accomplished staff officer during the Revolutionary War. He served on the staff of General Washington and as personal secretary to John Laurens (son of Henry Laurens). In 1782-1783, he served briefly as Assistant Secretary of War. His most accomplished position was as secretary to the Constitutional Convention in 1787. See also other Jackson letters in the Bradford Papers, Reel 6 documents 496, 510.]

**Volume 9/23** January 2, 1778 to March 26, 1778    6 documents    [Frames 478-678]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

28. January 11, 1778 [499]  
List of prisoners held by Colonel Thomas Hartley's Regiment, including name, where taken, and when taken for 8 prisoners captured between October 25, 1777 and January 2, 1778
29. February 17, 1778 [597]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at "Camp", at Downingtown [west of Valley Forge on the road to Lancaster], to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, sending him seven prisoners of war, including a list of the prisoners by name, with additional information [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 48]  
[**Note:** Bradford's name was often spelled "Brandford" in these papers.]  
[**Note:** "Camp" refers to the place where the Continental Army was camped at a particular time. Not all prisoners handled by Bradford were prisoners of war. For example, see document 16.]

**[Note: Thomas Bradford (1745-1738),** was appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners by the Continental Congress on January 17, 1778, serving under Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot (from May 1777 to May 1778), John Beatty (from May 1778 to April 1780) and Abraham Skinner (from September 21, 1780 until August 1782). On October 19, 1780, Skinner promoted Bradford to the new title of Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners, a title he retained until the end of the war. Thomas came from an old and prominent Philadelphia family, whose father, William Bradford (1721-1791) was an influential printer and publisher beginning in the 1740s. Later in life, he became actively involved in the Pennsylvania Militia during the Revolutionary War. Thomas' brother, William Bradford (1755-1795), was an attorney in Philadelphia and served as Deputy Muster General during the war. Later, he served as Pennsylvania Attorney General from 1780 to 1791 and as U.S. Attorney General from 1794 to 1795. From 1791 to 1794, he was a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice. William married Susan Boudinot, daughter of Elias Boudinot. When the elder William Bradford died in 1791, Thomas took over ownership and operation of the family printing and publishing business. Once the British evacuated **Philadelphia** in June 1778, Bradford was assigned to supervise the prisoner-of-war operations in that city, at the so-called **New Jail**, which, with the Lancaster prison supervised by Atlee, became the two large and important prison centers in the network of places where the Americans incarcerated British and German prisoners of war.]

30. March 5, 1778 [625]  
Letter from Bradford at "camp" to Atlee, delivering two prisoners "*confined for passing counterfeit money*" along with a list of the status of additional prisoners [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 50]
  
31. March 12, 1778 [633]  
List of German prisoner of war officers at Lancaster "*on their way for Exchange*", including name, rank, and regiment for 20 prisoners, with a note stating that all but three of them had been sent to Philadelphia on March 26, 1778 under escort of Captains Cartwright and Zeigler; a second page of the same list includes 12 additional prisoners
  
32. March 15, 1778 [639]  
Two letters from William Smallwood, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Wilmington, to Atlee, concerning the movement of 40 prisoners to Lancaster; enclosing a list [perhaps document 12 despite the date discrepancy] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 52]
  
33. March 17, 1778 [648]  
List of 41 prisoners of war, possibly those being sent from Wilmington to Lancaster [see document 11] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 54]

**Volume 9/24** (begin) April 2, 1778 to June 10, 1778 14 documents [Frames 679-866]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

34. April 4, 1778 [684]  
William Smallwood Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Wilmington to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, sending 35 prisoners of war to Lancaster, including a list of the prisoners by name [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 55]
35. April 19, 1778 [714]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, at "Camp", to Atlee, sending him 20 prisoners, with list enclosed [document 15] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 57]
36. April 19, 1778 [716]  
List of 20 prisoners of war sent to Lancaster; enclosed with Bradford's April 19, 1778 letter to Atlee [document 14] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 58]
37. April 1778 [739]  
List of "*British and Hessian* [prisoner of war] *Officers &c brought from Virginia under the Escort of W. A. Buchannan Deputy Commissary of Prisoners*", including name, rank, and information about places sent for about 80 German prisoners and about 22 British prisoners [portions of the document are washed out and unable to be read]
38. May 9, 1778 [754]  
List of prisoners at Lancaster, with descriptions and status, compiled by Atlee [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 62]
39. May 12, 1778 [757]  
Letter from Patterson Bell, Chester County Justice of the Peace, to the Constable, concerning 5 prisoners of war retaken after having escaped from the Lancaster jail, listed by name
40. May 15, 1778 [779]  
"*List of British Prisoners of War* [at] *Lancaster*", including name and regiment for 137 prisoners

41. May 15, 1778 [783]  
"Return of British Prisoners unable to be removed" because of illness, including name and regiment for 25 prisoners
42. May 16, 1778 [786]  
"List of Prisoners sent from Lancaster under the Escort of Lieut. Andrew Walker of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Hartley's Regiment for Fort Fredrick...agreeable to Orders from the Board of War", including name, regiment, when taken, and where taken for 100 prisoners plus "5 Women & 1 little Boy named W<sup>m</sup> Mahallon"  
[Note: Fort Frederick was located at Frederick, Maryland, just south of the Pennsylvania line, southwest of Lancaster.]
43. May 24, 1778 [801]  
Letter from Bradford at "camp" to Atlee, sending to Lancaster nine prisoners, listed by name [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 8 document 67]
44. May 25, 1778 [808]  
"List of Hessian Prisoners of War, remaining under the Guard of Cap<sup>t</sup>. McCullough", including name and regiment for 76 prisoners plus 9 women and 2 children not named
45. June 2, 1778 [820]  
List of British prisoners, including rank, name, and regiment for 58 prisoners
46. June 2, 1778 [825]  
"Report of Prisoners of War, now under Main Guard, Penburroug Town Ship... Ordered to be sent to Lancaster, under the Command of Lieut. Smith 6<sup>th</sup> Maryland Reg<sup>t</sup>.", including name for 20 prisoners; most are identified as sailors or mariners, although one is identified as a "Horse Thief"; followed by A separate list apparently of prisoners but not prisoners of war, with their status, e.g. "here" or "died," etc.; total of 57 prisoners  
[Note: Today's East Penn Burrough Township is located opposite Harrisburg on the Susquehanna River.]
47. June 9, 1778 [856]  
List of 2 prisoners of war at Lancaster with information about them, including that they had both escaped from Leesburg, Virginia

## Reel 9 (LC Reel 105)

### Summary Contents:

|  |             |                  |
|--|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Volume 9/24</b> (end) June 10, 1778 to June 30, 1778  | 3 documents | [Frames 1-49]    |
| <b>Volume 9/25</b> July 7, 1778 to December 12, 1778     | 2 documents | [Frames 50-341]  |
| <b>Volume 9/26</b> January 6, 1779 to October 25, 1779   | 3 documents | [Frames 342-661] |
| <b>Volume 9/27</b> (begin) Nov. 4, 1779 to Jan. 12, 1780 | 6 documents | [Frames 662-803] |

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

|   |             |               |
|---|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Volume 9/24</b> (end) June 10, 1778 to June 30, 1778 | 3 documents | [Frames 1-49] |
|---|-------------|---------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. June 16, 1778 [9]  
List of Hessian and Waldecker prisoners of war sent from Middletown to Lancaster, including regiment, rank, and name for 97 prisoners plus 15 women and 6 children not named
2. June 17, 1778 [23]  
*"List of Hessian, Waldeck & British Prisoners sent from Lancaster under the Escort of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Michael Aseß [?] toward Philadelphia for exchange by order of Elias Boudinot Esquire Commissary General of Prisoners"*, including regiment and name for 413 prisoners; however, 31 names, the only British prisoners in the list, are Xed out, apparently limiting the exchange to Hessian and Waldecker prisoners
3. June 21, 1778 [30]  
*"List of British, Hessian & Waldeck Prisoners of War sent from Philadelphia for exchange"* under Boudinot's orders, including regiment and name for 171 prisoners, including 43 British prisoners

|  |             |                 |
|--|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>Volume 9/25</b> July 7, 1778 to December 12, 1778 | 2 documents | [Frames 50-341] |
|--|-------------|-----------------|

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

4. July 15, 1778 [83]  
List of prisoners of war, including name, regiment, company, and “*by whom employed*” for about 16 prisoners [portions washed out and difficult to read]
5. July 29, 1778 [115]  
“*List of Hessian and Waldeck Prisoners of War sent from Lancaster for Philadelphia...under the Escort of Lieutenant William Vanlier & Lieut. Stephen Stephenson of the 9<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment*”, including name and regiment for 49 prisoners [copy in Reel 4 document 11 of DLAR’s microfilms of Thomas Bradford Papers (manuscripts at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania)]

**Volume 9/26** January 6, 1779 to October 25, 1779 3 documents [Frames 342-661]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

6. July 22, 1779 [539]  
“*A Return of the [British] Officers taken [as prisoners of war] at Stony-Point on the Hudson’s River with the Names of their Servants*”, including name, regiment, and servant name for 23 prisoners; followed by  
August 3, 1779  
“*Return of Officers on Parole who were taken Stony-Point and sent to Easton*”, including last name, rank, and regiment for 4 officers; including note signed by William Atlee stating that these “*Officers & Privates arrived at Lancaster the 3<sup>d</sup>. of August 1779*” [see document 7 for related information]  
[**Note:** The Battle of Stony Point, north of New York City, fought on the night of July 16, 1779, was a major victory for the Americans.]
7. July 22, 1779 [542]  
Letter from Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Abraham Skinner at Goshen [New York] to Atlee at Lancaster, sending 466 privates and 23 officers, prisoners of war captured at Stony Point; the officers have signed a parole; “*I have allowed them their Servants which reduces the number of Privates from 466 to 441*” [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 9 document 16] [for a directly related prisoner list, see the DLAR’s microfilms of Thomas Bradford Papers (manuscripts at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania), Reel 5 document 13]
8. August 7, 1779 [552]  
“*Return of the Mens Names of the Britain Troops that Drawn provisions in Goal*” at Lancaster, including name and regiment for 6 British prisoners plus 2 German prisoners; signed by David Read [?]



**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

9. November 6, 1779 [668]  
Letter from Hugh Cunningham, jail keeper at Lancaster, to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster and "*Second Chief Justice of Pennsylvania*", stating enclosure of "*a Provision Return for three of Genral Borgoins Troops Viz. Sarjant Karr John Thompson & Mollons*"; enclosing a return/list of provisions for 15 named prisoners showing absentees [the same 15 as in the list dated November 20, 1779, document 10] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 9 document 25]  
**[Note: Provision Returns** for the Lancaster prison are found in the Peter Force Collection, Prisoner of War Lists, Reel 9 documents 10 through 13 (and in Atlee Papers, Reel 9, documents 25, 27, 28, 30, and 31) dated November 6 through December 11, 1779 and in Reel 10 documents 7 through 20 dated January 1 through January 29, 1782. A more extensive collection of Provision Returns for the Philadelphia prison are listed in the Bradford Papers, Reel 4 document 2 and in scattered documents in Reel 5 dated between October 27, 1778 and August 8, 1782.]
10. November 20, 1779 [682]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee, stating enclosure of "*a Provision Return for three of Genral Borgoins Troops Viz. Sarjant Karr John Thompson & Mollons*"; enclosing a return/list of provisions for 15 named prisoners showing absentees [the same 15 as in the list dated November 6, 1779, document 9] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 9 document 27]
11. November 27, 1779 [700]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee as "*Second Chief Justice*", providing "*a Provision Return for three of the Convention Troops*," namely Sergeant Karr, John Thompson, and Mollons, with no return attached [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 9 document 28]
12. December 4, 1779 [714]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee, as "*Second Chief Justice*", "*or M<sup>r</sup>. Barton Assistant*", providing "*a Provision Return for three of the Convention Troops*," namely Sergeant Karr, John Thompson, and Mollons, with no return attached [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 9 document 30]

13. December 11, 1779 [719]  
Letter from Cunningham to Atlee, as "*Second Chief Justice*", "*or M<sup>r</sup>. Barton Assistant*", providing "*a Provision Return for three of the Convention Troops*," namely Sergeant Karr, John Thompson, and Mollons, with no return attached [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 9 document 31]
14. January 10, 1780 [797]  
"*List of Prisoners of Warr left at Lancaster by Colonel Webb on his march from Philadelphia to Fort Fredrick*", including name, regiment, when taken and where taken plus notes about wives and children for 79 prisoners, plus 7 prisoners who joined the march at Lancaster

## Reel 10 (LC Reel 106)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/27** (end) January 17, 1780 to June 26, 1780 2 documents [Frames 1-160]  
**Volume 9/28** July 1, 1780 to December 31, 1780 5 documents [Frames 161-458]  
**Volume 9/29** January 5, 1781 to June 30, 1781 8 documents [Frames 459-707]  
**Volume 9/30** (begin) July 1, 1781 to Aug. 20, 1781 11 documents [Frames 708-788]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/27** (end) January 17, 1780 to June 26, 1780 2 documents [Frames 1-160]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. February 12, 1780 [14]  
Copy of "*Return of Prisoners of Warr at Lancaster*" sent by William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, to Commissary General of Prisoners Colonel John Beatty, including name, rank, and regiment, divided by officers and privates [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 3]
2. March 11, 1780 [34]  
List of prisoners sent by Joseph Smith at Lancaster to Atlee, stating that he had received from Atlee 110 "*of the foregoing Prisoners of Warr to Conduct to Fort Frederick by order of the Board of Warr*"; list contains names, ranks, and status, for the Royal Artillery, 82<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Loyal [to Britain] Americans, the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers, and "*Skinner's N. Levies*" [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 6]

**Volume 9/28** July 1, 1780 to December 31, 1780     5 documents     [Frames 161-458]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

3. July 3, 1780 [164]  
List of prisoners at Lancaster, including name, regiment, date of jailing, and some other information for perhaps about 40 prisoners [first page very vague and difficult to read]
4. August 16, 1780 [229]  
Letter from Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Thomas Bradford to Atlee, stating that he is sending five named officer prisoners to Atlee; warning that one should not be sent to Reading because his brother is held there [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 22]
5. August 24, 1780 [243]  
*"A List of British Prisoners Names which Broak out of Goal"* [at Lancaster], including name and regiment for 14 prisoners; list of 3 prisoners *"Brought Back"*
6. September 24, 1780 [508]  
*"Officers Prisoners of Warr stationed at Lancaster"*, including name, regiment, rank, and status for 36 prisoners
7. November [?], 1780 [560]  
*"List of Privates who go with the Officers to New York for Exchange"*, including regiment, private's name, and officer's name for 41 prisoners

**Volume 9/29** January 5, 1781 to June 30, 1781     8 documents     [Frames 459-707]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

8. January 5, 1781 [440]  
Return of British prisoners sent from Reading to Lancaster, enclosed with Henry Haller's January 5, 1781 letter to William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster [document 9] [microfilm very light and difficult to read] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 33]

9. January 5, 1781 [445]  
Letter from Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, to Atlee, concerning 54 prisoners of war sent from Easton, which he is sending on to Lancaster, with enclosed list of prisoners [document 8] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 34]
10. April 8[?], 1781 [580]  
“*List of British Prisoners of Warr brought to Lancaster from the Southward*”, including name, regiment, “*when taken*”, and where taken, plus notes for some, for 672 prisoners
11. April [?], 1781 [594]  
List of prisoners of war sent from the south to Lancaster, including name, regiment, and taken when and where, plus notes, for 8 prisoners
12. June 14, 1781 [673]  
“*List of Private Prisoners of War, brought to Lancaster from York[town] by Col. Henry Miller*”, including name, regiment, when taken, and where taken for 19 prisoners
13. June 16, 1781 [675]  
“*List of British Prisoners Brought to Lancaster by Major Bailly*”, including name and whether with a wife, regiment, plus notes for some, for 515 prisoners; followed by  
July 18 and 20, 1781  
“*Memorandum*” with additional information about some of those included in the list above
14. June 17, 1781 [690]  
List of British seaman prisoners of war, including name, “*Quality* [rank]”, and from “*What Vessel*” for 53 prisoners; signed by Hugh Cunningham, jail keeper at Lancaster, and directed to William Atlee as “*Commissary for British Prisoners*”; with a note that “*All these sent to Philad<sup>a</sup>. Under the Escort of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Abraham Scott the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1781*” [see related list in document 16] [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 44]
15. June 30, 1781 [703]  
Letter from E. G. Van Wagener, deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Fishkill, New York, to Atlee, concerning his sending prisoners of war, as ordered by General Washington, including a list of 38 named prisoners with their ranks [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 46]

**Volume 9/30** (begin) July 1, 1781 to Aug. 20, 1781 11 documents [Frames 708-788]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

16. July 16, 1781 [734]  
"List of Marine Prisoners Sent from Lancaster to Philad<sup>a</sup>. to the Care of Thomas Bradford...and under the Escort of Captain Abraham Scott", including name, rank, and ship for 81 prisoners [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 10 document 52]
17. July 17, 1781 [737]  
"List of Prisoners Mustered" by name and category, with totals as follows: "In Barracks" (599), "In Goal" (124), "Convention" (1), "Woodcutters" (14) and "Total" (739) [actual total 738]
18. July 18, 1781 [739]  
"List of the British Prisoners of War In Lancaster Barracks", including name and regiment for 69 prisoners
19. July 19, 1781 [742]  
"List of the Mens Names of the Brittish [Cavalry] Priso<sup>s</sup>. Of War of the Brittish Legion", including name, regiment/company, and rank except for privates for 78 prisoners
20. July 19, 1781 [744]  
"Return of the British Prisoners of War Belonging to Lord Cornwalles Army & their Respective Regiment<sup>s</sup>" for 124 prisoners
21. July 19, 1781 [747]  
"A List of the mens Names of the British Prisoners of the 7th Regim<sup>t</sup>. And 23<sup>rd</sup> Regim<sup>th</sup>", including name company, and rank for all except privates for 112 prisoners "the Woman Included"
22. July 19, 1781 [749]  
"Return of Prisoners of War Names Belonging to Differant Corps in Lancaster Barracks", including regiment and name for 192 prisoners
23. July [?], 1781 [760]  
Summary list of prisoners of war by regiment, totaling 822 men, 26 women, and 11 children

24. July [?], 1781 [763]  
*"A List of the British Prisoners of War of the 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>tn</sup>", including name and rank for officers for 73 prisoners*
25. August 15, 1781 [770]  
*"Roll of the mens Names of British Prisoners of War and the Number of the Regiments the Belong to in Lancaster Barracks" for 599 prisoners*
26. August 16, 1781 [779]  
*"Roll of one Hundred and Twenty four men British Prisoners Belong to Lancaster Goal", including name and regiment for 124 prisoners*

## Reel 11 (LC Reel 107)

### Summary Contents:

**Volume 9/30** (end) Aug. 26, 1781 to Dec. 31, 1781 6 documents [Frames 1-158]  
**Volume 9/31** Jan. 1, 1782 to Dec. 20, 1782 17 documents [Frames 160-531]  
**Volume 9/32** (begin) Jan. 1, 1783 to Dec. 26, 1783 0 documents [Frames 532-721]

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Volume 9/30** (end) Aug. 26, 1781 to Dec. 31, 1781 6 documents [Frames 1-158]

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

1. August 30, 1781 [4]  
A List of the Prisoners in the [Lancaster] Barracks, including name, rank except for privates, and regiment for 552 prisoners
2. September 21, 1781 [39]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners, to William Augustus Atlee Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, conveying to Lancaster three prisoners of war, with names and ranks listed [listed also in Atlee Papers, Reel 11 document 2]  
**[Note:** After serving since 1778 as a deputy commissary of prisoners, Bradford's more substantial prisoner-of-war responsibilities in Philadelphia had been officially recognized on October 19, 1780 when he was promoted to the new position of Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners.]

3. October 19, 1781 [65]  
Summary lists of British ordnance, vessels, and troops captured at Yorktown, totaling 193 pieces of ordnance, 223 vessels, and 7,756 troops
4. October 20, 1781 [67]  
"A [summary] *List of Prisoners of War & Convention Prisoners at the Barracks and Goal in Lancaster*" including the number of men by "Reg<sup>ts</sup> & Corps", totaling 665 prisoners
5. November 21, 1781 [123]  
"*Return of British Prisoners of warr to march with Col. Johnston & Baggage to Elizabeth Town Point*", including name and regiment for about 33 prisoners [manuscript is washed out and smudged in places, making it difficult to read]
6. 1781 [143]  
Record of provisions and firewood for British prisoners of war, beginning as daily list of information dated from February 24, 1781 through September 13, 1781; followed by  
"*Account of orders issued for Proviissions and Firewood to the Prisoners of War in the Barracks and Goal of Lancaster, also those who are employ'd as Woodcutters, & Convention Troops including those who wait on the Sick Convention Prisoners*", a more formal list in columns, with basically the same information as the previous list, with columns for days of provisions provided; separate summary numbers for men, women, and children, number of cordons of firewood provided, location/category of each batch of prisoners, and dates for which the provisions were provided, dated September 15, 1781 through December 13, 1781

**Volume 9/31** Jan. 1, 1782 to Dec. 20, 1782      17 documents      [Frames 160-531]

**Note:** Documents 7 to 13 and 15 to 20 are provision returns for British prisoners of war at Lancaster. They vary somewhat in content, including columns in tables with information such as regiment, number of men prisoners, number of women, number of children, number of days of rations, and number rations, and gils [?] of salt.

**Note:** DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel.

7. January 1, 1782 [168]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 1 through January 4, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 12 women, and 16 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster;  
For 492 men, 19 women, and 5 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks
8. January 5, 1782 [177]  
Provision returns for 3 days from January 5 through January 7, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 12 women, and 16 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster;  
For 492 men, 19 women, and 5 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks;  
For 93 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
9. January 8, 1782 [187]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 8 through January 11, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 492 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks;  
For 93 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
10. January 12, 1782 [215]  
Provision returns for 3 days from January 12 through January 14, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 529 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks;  
For 56 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
11. January 11, 1782 [223]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 11 through January 14, 1782, for  
British prisoners of war arrived at Lancaster from Fredericktown [Frederick,  
Maryland; which hereafter in this Reel identifies Fredericktown.]  
For 612 men, 21 women, and 4 children;  
For 526 men, 36 women, and 4 children;  
For a detachment of 44 men with 2 women and 4 children



12. January 15, 1782 [230]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 15 through January 18, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 527 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster Barracks;  
For 56 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
13. January 15, 1782 [238]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 15 through January 18, 1782 for British prisoners of war arrived at Lancaster from Frederick:  
For a detachment of 3 men;  
For a detachment of 3 men;  
For a detachment of 2 men;  
For 1,177 men, 54 women, and 4 children
14. January 18, 1782 [247]  
Request by [British] Major James Gordon for allowance for wood for 1,185 men and 54 women, British prisoners of war from the 17<sup>th</sup> and other regiments, beginning January 18, 1782; with note from Henry Dering, who held the contract for provisioning the prisoners at Lancaster, approving giving "*The same allowance as to Continental Troops*"  
**Note:** Major Gordon was a prisoner of war himself, from the British 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment. He worked actively to improve the condition of the British prisoners at Lancaster.]
15. January 19, 1782 [253]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 19 through January 22, 1782, for British prisoners of war arrived at Lancaster from Frederick:  
For a detachment of 10 men, 1 woman, and 4 children;  
For 1,178 men, 58 women, and 4 children
16. January 19, 1782 [260]  
Provision returns for 3 days from January 19 through January 21, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 529 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster Barracks;  
For 56 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail

17. January 22, 1782 [269]  
Provision returns for 4 days from January 22 through January 25, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 531 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks;  
For 56 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
18. January 23, 1782 [276]  
Provision return for 4 days from January 23 through January 26, 1782 for British  
prisoners of war arrived at Lancaster from Frederick:  
For 1,196 men, 59 women, and 4 children
19. January 26, 1782 [279]  
Provision returns for 3 days from January 26 through January 28, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 531 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks;  
For 55 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
20. January 29, 1782 [288]  
Provision returns for 3 days from January 29 through January 31, 1782:  
For 18 prisoners of war employed as woodcutters in Lancaster;  
For 10 men, 11 women, and 14 children of different regiments belonging to the  
Convention prisoners who remained sick at Lancaster; on 2/3 rations;  
For 532 men, 20 women, and 7 children, British prisoners of war in Lancaster  
Barracks;  
For 55 British prisoners of war in Lancaster jail
21. January [?], 1782 [296]  
List of British prisoners at Lancaster, including regiment, numbers in the  
barracks, in the jail, Convention prisoners, and totals
22. February 26, 1782 [310]  
*"List of 252 Prisoners of War sent to Philadelphia...under Cap<sup>t</sup>. Bushnell"*,  
including name, regiment, when taken, and where taken
23. March 2, 1782 [319]  
List of British prisoners of war sent from Lancaster to Philadelphia under Captain  
Fleming, including name, regiment, when taken, and where taken, totaling over  
200 prisoners [document badly torn, leaving many names unreadable] [more  
complete and readable document in Thomas Bradford Papers, Reel 5 document  
131]

**Volume 9/32** (begin) Jan. 1, 1783 to Dec. 26, 1783 0 documents [Frames 532-721]

**Note:** No Prisoner Lists are found in **Reel 12 or Reel 13** (LC Reels 108 and 109 and **Volumes 9/32** (end) **through 9/36**).

**Johannes Schwalm Historical Association  
Collection—Prisoner-of-War Papers  
Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents  
Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscripts  
(on permanent loan to the David Library of the American Revolution)  
DLAR Microfilm Set 733, 6 Reels**

**Note:** The microfilmed documents held by the DLAR on permanent loan from the Schwalm Association contain mostly but not exclusively documents with content relating to prisoners-of-war matters during the Revolutionary War. In this Finding Aid, only prisoner-of-war-related documents are included, with gaps in Document Numbers to indicate the location of additional documents on the microfilm reels. Such gaps are found in Reels 4, 5, and 6.

**Note:** The six DLAR reels of Schwalm Association microfilmed documents contain no Frame Numbers. The Frame Numbers indicated in this Finding Aid have been calculated and reported by the DLAR Volunteer Researcher.

## **Reel 1**

### **Itemized, Annotated Contents:**

#### **Lists of Hessian, Including Waldeck, and British Prisoners of War**

None is dated; contents relate to December 1776 through July 1778

Documents 1-12

[Frames 1-42]

**Note:** Among these 12 documents, microfilmed separately for the JSHA, none is found in the more voluminous Reels 4 through 6. Their source is the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 875.

**Note:** All the documents on this Reel appear to have been bound together in a single ledger book.

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. [no date] [1]  
*"A List of Hessian & Waldeck Prisoners of War recd July 1778 from W<sup>m</sup> Atlee Esq<sup>r</sup> Lancaster & sent forwards to be exchanged July"*, including named prisoners by regiment: German Artillery (29), Regiment of Lossberg (94), Regiment of Knyphausen (96), Regiment of Rall (82), Regiment of Waldeck (29), Regiment of Donop (4), Life Regiment (2), Regiment of Yagers (12, last names only), Regiment of German Grenadiers (11, last names only)
2. [no date] [5]  
 List of British and German prisoners of war, identified by name and regiment, including 50 prisoners from various British regiments and from German regiments: Lossberg (39), Knyphausen (31), Rall (37), Waldeck (11)
3. [no date] [7]  
*"List of Hessian Waldeck Prisoners of War sent from Lancaster July 13 recd in Philad July"*, including names by regiment: Lossberg (13), Knyphausen (24), Rall (5), Artillery (3), Grenadiers (1), Waldeck 7; including note at end *"With the above came 12 Sailors as in list of Sailors [not microfilmed here] & with them were Sent off 4 Soldiers recd from Trenton"* [listed by name]
4. [no date] [9]  
*"List of Hessian & Waldeck Prisoners of War sent from Lancaster July 29 & recd"*; including named prisoners by regiment: Lossberg (5), Knyphausen (10), Rall (29), Artillery (1), Jagers [Jägers in German] (1), Waldeck (3); also including a list of *"Musicians recd from York Town"*, listing 6 names, each from a different German regiment; also including 28 marines and 3 soldiers from the hospital: with note that *"The whole of these were sent off under the Care of Lieut VanLeer Aug<sup>t</sup> 7 1778"*; followed by list of 2 *"Land Soldiers"* listed by name, dated *"Sep<sup>r</sup> 22"*, and *"sent to NY Oct<sup>r</sup>"*
5. [no date] [12]  
*"A List of [British] Prisoners receiv'd from Winchester"*, listing by name 112 prisoners, their regiment, and where they were captured (all with dates of December 1776 and January 1777)
6. [no date] [15]  
*"List of [British] Prisoners receiv'd from Winchester"*, including named prisoners of war, all captured at sea on May 29, 1776, 88 of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlander Regiment and 34 of the 71<sup>st</sup> Highlander Regiment
7. [no date] [18]  
*"Return of [British] Prisoners sent from Maryland"*, listing by name 57 named prisoners of war from several regiments, captured at various locations in Maryland between December 1776 and August 1777

8. [no date] [20]  
*"An Acc<sup>t</sup> of prisoners taken by the Fleet of the French King"*, with entries dated from June 30 through July 6, 1778, including 76 named prisoners of war with their ranks, name of ship, where taken, when taken, and remarks; with additional notes; followed by a list of 3 named prisoners captured in July/August 1779, and another list of 6 prisoners dated June 12, 1780
9. [no date] [24]  
 List of 11 individuals, probably prisoners of war, with the heading "*H. Hugh Miller of Delight*", written on a scrap of paper apparently pasted into the ledger book
10. [no date] [25]  
*"List of Prisoners taken by Vessels fitted out by State of Pensylvania"*, with entries with dates from April 4 through December 12, 1779, including name, rank, name of ship and location of capture, plus notes for 439 named prisoners of war
11. [no date] [41]  
*"List of Defectors from Burgoyne's Army"*, listing 7 deserters by name with dates from December 16 [perhaps 1779] to August 8 [perhaps 1780]
12. [no date] [42]  
*"List Aug<sup>t</sup> 20 from Hospital"*, including 6 named individuals [probably prisoners of war]

## Reel 2

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

#### **Lists of Hessian and British Prisoners of War, Provision Returns, Parole Security Statements and Forms, and Correspondence about Prisoners of War** (negative microfilm)

January 19, 1780 through April 17, 1783

Documents 1-45

[Frames 1-86]

**Note:** Among these 45 documents, microfilmed separately for the JSHA, 20 are also found in the more voluminous Reels 4 through 6, as identified below. Their source is the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676.

**Note:** A modern list of this Reel's contents is microfilmed at the beginning of the Reel.

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. February 12, 1781 [1]  
Printed edition of the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury, No. 1530, including a "*General Pardon*" issued by William von Knyphausen, apparently for his captured regimental troops, dated December 8, 1780 in New York
2. July 3, 1780 [2]  
Letter from John Adam, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth, New Jersey, to Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia, concerning the "*troubles here*"; stating that on "*the first day of their being out, the Hessians & Yaigers appeared like ravenous wolves, Plunder of every kind prevaild attended with such slaughter amongst the long faced gentry Hogs, that the like was never known in these parts*"; describing how his flag sloop was stolen to be used to be scuttled in a bridge of boats across to Staten Island; including other prisoner-of-war matters; enclosing newspapers  
[Note: In the documents that follow on this Reel, "Bradford" refers to **Colonel Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners** after October 19, 1780) at Philadelphia, unless identified with another first name. See also notes on Bradford's position after Reel 5 document 590 and on his family after Reel 5 document 530.]
3. December 10, 1780 [5]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the exchange of some German prisoners of war
4. September 26, 1779 [7]  
List, written in German, of the Knyphausen Regiment of German prisoners of war, including names of 95 German prisoners and three Negroes, although the table of prisoners by category totals 126 prisoners [see copy in Reel 5 document 16]
5. [no date] [13]  
"*List of the Hessian Prisoners of Ware in Philadelphia N[ew] Goal Regiment de Knyphausen*", with names, company names, and identification of sick prisoners for 99 prisoners [see copies in Reel 3 document 5 and Reel 5 document 25]
6. [no date] [16]  
List, written in German, of German prisoners of war of the Knyphausen Regiment, listed by name for 91 prisoners of war [see also Reel 5 documents 21, 27]

7. January 19, 1780 [?] [18]  
"Provision Return for British Prisoners of War" addressed to Bradford, listing totals by regiment for 482 prisoners, including 1 woman and 2 children, presumably at New Jail, Philadelphia [see also Reel 5 document 30]
8. February 3, 1780 [20]  
"State of the Prisoners of War in Philadelphia", listing totals by regiment for 666 prisoners, including 106 in prison, 513 at work, and 47 sick in hospital [see also Reel 5 document 33; compare with Reel 5 document 121]
9. March 5, 1780 [21]  
"State of prisoners of War in Philadelphia", listing totals by regiment for 664 prisoners, including 188 in prison, 451 at work, and 25 sick in hospital [see also Reel 5 document 33; compare with document 8 and Reel 5 document 121]
10. February 18, 1780 [22]  
"Provision Return for the Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia" for 129 prisoners [see also reel 5 document 33]
11. March 25, 1780 [23]  
"List of the Soldiers Prisoners of War in Philadelphia New Gaol", with names listed by regiment for 211 prisoners
12. April 26, 1780 [26]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at New Jail, Philadelphia, for 242 prisoners, of which 10 are women and 12 children [see also Reel 5 document 41]
13. May 1 [?], 1780 [26]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at New Jail, Philadelphia, for 243 prisoners, of which 10 are women and 11 are children
14. July 5, 1780 [28]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at Old Jail, Philadelphia, listing totals by regiment for 312 prisoners [see also Reel 5 document 49]
15. July 3, 1780 [29]  
Provision return for British prisoners of war at Old Jail, Philadelphia, listing totals by regiment for 453½ prisoners [children were issued half rations]
16. July 23, 1780 [29]  
Provision return for British prisoners of war at Old Jail, Philadelphia, listing totals by regiment for 475 prisoners [see also Reel 5 document 51]
17. August 1, 1780 [30]  
Provision return for British prisoners of War at Old Jail, Philadelphia, listing totals by regiment for 466 prisoners [see also Reel 5 document 50]



18. August 31, 1780 [30]  
Provision return for British prisoners of War at Old Jail, Philadelphia, listing totals by regiment for 462 prisoners [see also Reel 5 document 54]
19. August 14, 1780 [31]  
*"A List of the Navel Prisoners of war in the State Prison Philadelphia"*, including names, ranks, and vessels, for 108 prisoners, 10 of whose names have been crossed out [see also Reel 5 document 55]
20. September 21, 1780 [34]  
Provision return for British prisoners of War at Old Jail, Philadelphia, listing totals by regiment for 466 prisoners [see also Reel 5 document 56]
21. September 16, 1780 [34]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are sick In the Bettering House Philadelphia"*, listed by category, including a total of 61 prisoners [see also Reel 5 document 58]
22. September 16, 1780 [35]  
*"A List of Prisoners taken by His Majestys Ship Greyhound and sent to Philadelphia in a Flag of Truce Two friends on Parole being taken for them by their Officers of the Ships they were taken in, that an equal Number of British Prisoners shall be sent to New York in the said Flag of Truce"*, names listed by ship for 65 prisoners of war, of which 5 are X'ed out, apparently in the original document; followed by  
Separate list of prisoners signed by 10 individuals also bound for Philadelphia on the Two Friends flag of truce [see also Reel 5 document 59]
23. December 11, 1780 [36]  
*"Return of the German Prisoners of War in the New Goal at Philadelphia"*, listed by regiment for a total of 533 prisoners
24. [no date] [38]  
Returns for men of the various German regiments in New Jail, contained in a bound document with 56 numbered pages, including entries with dates of arrival at the New Jail from December 1780 through April 1782, listing, by regiment, names of 193 prisoners of war, including the date arrived at New Jail, place brought from, date and place taken prisoner, date bailed out of New Jail, those admitted to the hospital, those discharged from the hospital, runaways, and deaths for German regiments as follows: Lossberg's (6), Knyphausen's (128), Rall's (3), Donop's (2), Landgrave's (2), Bose's (2), "Erb Prince" (5), Bünau's (2), Grenadiers (4), Ansbach's (3), Artillery (1), Jager [Jäger in German] Corps (6), Hanau's Artillery (17), Brunswick's (12)

25. [no date] [66]  
"List of Prisoners of War sent from Lancaster the 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1780 to Philadelphia", listing names by regiment for 86 numbered prisoners
26. December [?] 1780 [67]  
Return of prisoners of war sent from Reading to Philadelphia, including name, rank, regiment, when taken, where taken, and remarks for 36 numbered prisoners
27. March 11, 1781 [68]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at New Jail, Philadelphia, for a total of 566 prisoners, 68 of whom are sick [see also Reel 5 document 76]
28. June 18, 1781 [69]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at New Jail, Philadelphia, for a total of 515 prisoners, 55 of whom are sick [see also Reel 5 document 83]
29. August 23, 1781 [70]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at New Jail, Philadelphia, for a total of 499 prisoners, 63 of whom are sick [see also Reel 5 document 98]
30. February 5, 1782 [71]  
List of German prisoners of war, by regiment and name, in New Jail and the "Bettering House" at Philadelphia, for 122 numbered prisoners
31. February 6, 1782 [72]  
Summary list of German prisoners of war that draw provisions at New Jail or the Bettering House at Philadelphia, including totals by regiment for 122 prisoners
32. February 4, 1782 [73]  
Provision return for prisoners of war at New Jail, Philadelphia, for a total of 493 prisoners, 31 of whom are sick [see also Reel 5 document 125]
33. September 27, 1779 [74]  
Pledge of security to obtain parole from British officers, prisoners of war; signed by six individuals
34. October 7, 1779 [75]  
Pledge of security to obtain parole from German and British officers, prisoners of war; signed by 15 individuals, some signing also for their servants
35. August 14, 1780 [76]  
Pledge of security to obtain parole from British prisoners of war; signed by 5 individuals, some signing also for their servants

36. August 15, 1780 [77]  
Pledge of security to obtain parole from British prisoners of war; signed by 5 individuals, some signing also for their servants
  
37. January 18, 1779 [78]  
Statement by James Bullard of Philadelphia, acknowledging being "*firmly bound*" to pay Bradford [as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] \$300; apparently as security for release of a prisoner-of-war not explained in this document
  
38. September 13, 17[?] [79]  
Printed, filled-in form acknowledging an obligation by John Knowles of Oxford Township, Philadelphia County, to pay \$400 to Bradford, as security for release of prisoner-of-war Henry Leinge of Knyphausen's Regiment
  
39. [no date] [79]  
Printed, filled-in form acknowledging an obligation by William Butler of Cumberland County [Pennsylvania, near Harrisburg], to pay \$600 to Bradford, as security for release of prisoner-of-war Robert Harkness [?] of the [?] Battalion
  
40. October 9, 1779 [80]  
Printed, filled-in form acknowledging an obligation by John English of Berks County, Amity Township [Pennsylvania], to pay \$600 to Bradford, as security for release of prisoner-of-war Justus Dedrich of Knyphausen's Regiment
  
41. October 10, 1779 [80]  
Printed, filled-in form acknowledging an obligation by Blair McClenachan, a merchant of Philadelphia, to pay \$500 to Bradford, as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, as security for release of prisoner-of-war Felix Fragan [?]
  
42. November 29, 1779 [81]  
Printed, filled-in form acknowledging an obligation by Lewis Phoal [?], gunsmith of Philadelphia, to pay \$600 to Bradford, as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, as security for release of prisoner-of-war Henry Emst of Knyphausen's Regiment
  
43. December 2, 177[?] [81]  
Printed, filled-in form acknowledging an obligation by James Suter of Philadelphia, to pay \$[?]00 to Bradford, as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, as security for release of prisoner-of-war Abraham Liebsner [?]
  
44. December 11, 1779 [82]  
Letter from Colonel Elias Boudinot, [former Commissary General of Prisoners], at Elizabeth, to Colonel [John] Beatty Commissary General of Prisoners, concerning an exchange of prisoners possibly to include Captain Pitcairn and Lieutenant Campbell; including other prisoner-of-war matters

[**Note:** Boudinot served as Commissary General from May 1777 until May 1778, when he resigned, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also for reasons of ill health. Beatty succeeded him sometime in May 1778 and served in this position until September 1780. Boudinot remained actively involved in prisoner-of-war matters until at least late August 1778. In relation to his financial obligations, he declared June 23, 1778 to be his last official day as Commissary General. Still, in December 1779, he appears to be involved in a particular exchange situation.]

45. April 17, 1783 [83]  
Personal letter from Elisha Boudinot at Philadelphia to Lewis Pintard at Basking Ridge [New Jersey, Boudinot's home], concerning the cessation of hostilities with Britain and other personal matters
- [**Note:** **Elisha Boudinot** (1749-1819) was the brother of Elias Boudinot, who served as the first Commissary General of Prisoners for the U.S. from 1777 to 1778. Like his brother, Elisha, who settled in Newark, was an early revolutionary leader. He served as secretary of the New Jersey Council of Safety in 1777. In December 1778, the New Jersey Legislature appointed him Commissary of Prisoners for New Jersey. He went on to practice law in Newark, rising to serve as an associate judge of the New Jersey Supreme Court from 1798-1804.]
- [**Note:** **Lewis Pintard** (1732-1818) was a wealthy merchant from New York City also related to the Boudinot family by marriage through the family of Richard Stockton, New Jersey signer of the Declaration of Independence (In 1759, Pintard had married Richard Stockton's sister Susanna; she died before the Revolution in 1772. Meanwhile, Richard Stockton had married Elias Boudinot's sister Annis.) In May 1777, while Pintard was still living in New York, Boudinot, America's new Commissary General of Prisoners, appointed him Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for New York City. However, he was unable to serve. The British refused to recognize his appointment, and by November, he was forced to move from British-occupied New York. However, he continued actively to assist in prisoner-of-war matters until at least May 1778, when Boudinot resigned as Commissary General of Prisoners, and this line of correspondence was discontinued.]
- [**Note:** In 1777, Boudinot bought a house, still standing today, in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Located southwest of Morristown, it became his family home while the British occupied New York to the north and Philadelphia to the south. Evidently he was still using the house as the war was ended, although after the war, he (re)settled in Elizabeth, New Jersey.]

## Reel 3

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

#### **Lists of Hessian and British Prisoners of War** (negative microfilm)

October 10, 1779 to December 14, 1779

Documents 1-6

[Frames 1-14]

**Note:** All six of these documents, microfilmed separately for the JSHA, are also found in the more voluminous Reels 4 through 6, as identified below. Their source is the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 71 and/or 1676.

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. October 30, 1779 [1]  
Provision return for British prisoners of war [at New Jail, Philadelphia] totaling 452 prisoners, of whom 11 are women and 7 children [see also Reel 5 document 19]
2. October 11, 1779 [2]  
“*State of the Prisoners of War at Philadelphia*”, listing numbers in prison, on parole, at work, and in the hospital, totaling 976 prisoners plus 28 women and children [see also Reel 5 document 20]
3. October 10, 1779 [3]  
List, written in German, of German prisoners of war at Philadelphia, listed by name, with notes, for a total of 92 numbered prisoners [see Reel 5 document 21]
4. December 14, 1779 [5]  
“*List of Naval Prisoners in the State Prison Philadelphia*”, including names, vessel from, and discharge status for 153 prisoners of war [see also Reel 5 document 22]
5. [no date] [10]  
List of German prisoners of war in New Jail Philadelphia from Knyphausen’s Regiment, with names, listed by company for 99 prisoners [see copies in Reel 2, document 5 and Reel 5 document 25]

6. [no date] [13]  
“*Amount of Prisoners Belonging to the Diferent Vesels Belonging to Philadelphia now on Board the Jersey Prison ship*”, listing prisoners by name by ship, as follows: Ship General St. Clair (1), Ship St. Turain (2), Brig Fame (16), Schooner Marcoe (1); Ship Revenge (9), Ship Elizabeth (1), Brig Taney (4), Ship Morning Star (3) [entry X’ed out], Schooner Molly (1), Duke of Linster (6), Brig Ajax (4), Brig Johana Maria (7), Schooner Amelia (3), Schooner Doly (8), Schooner Grayhound (2), Schooner St. Turian (5), Schooner Unity (2), Snow Dilgram (6), Ship Morning Star (7) [see also Reel 5 document 26]

## Reel 4

### Summary Contents:

#### **John Hinrichs Diary**

January 18, 1778 to May 22, 1780 [Frames 2-50]  
(Source: Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 288)  
[Listed here for reference only. John Hinrichs did not become a prisoner-of-war, and the annotated contents of his diary are not included in this Finding Aid.]

#### **Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence and Other Documents Pertaining to Prisoners of War**

July 17, 1777 to June 6, 1781 Documents 17 to 217 [Frames 66-373]  
(Source: Elias Boudinot Papers in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 68)  
Only documents in this correspondence pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid. For information on documents of interest not pertaining to prisoners of war, see the note after document 217 on this reel. The entire collection on this Reel is summarized below:

June 22, 1716 through April 19, 1782 documents 3-240 [Frames 53-408]

#### **Provision Returns for British Soldier Prisoners of War**

October 27, 1778 to August 8, 1782 Doc. 241 (list of returns) [Frames 409-448]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society Collection 71 and/or 1676)

#### **Copy of Articles of a Cartel**

May 3, 1781 Document 242 [Frames 449-534]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society Collection 71 and/or 1676)

#### **Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War (begin)**

January 11, 1777 to September 23, 1778 Documents 243-254 [Frames 535-550]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society Collection 71 and/or 1676)

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. May 22, 2000 [1]  
Invoice from Historical Society of Pennsylvania to Johannes Schwalm Historical Association for microfilming of documents in three reels (DLAR Reels 4, 5, and 6).

### **John Hinrichs Diary**

January 18, 1778 to May 22, 1780 [Frames 2-50]  
(Source: Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript Collection 288)  
[Listed here for reference only. John Hinrichs did not become a prisoner-of-war, and the annotated contents of his diary are not included in this Finding Aid.]

2. January 18, 1778 through May 22, 1780 [2]  
John Hinrichs diary [listed here for reference only; John Hinrichs did not become a prisoner-of-war, so the annotated contents of his diary are not included in this Finding Aid]



## Elias Boudinot Incoming Correspondence and Other Documents Pertaining to Prisoners of War

July 17, 1777 to June 6, 1781                      Documents 17 to 217                      [Frames 66-373]  
(Source: Elias Boudinot Papers in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Manuscript  
Collection 68)

Only documents in this correspondence pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid. For information on documents of interest not pertaining to prisoners of war, see the note after document 217 on this reel. The entire collection on this Reel is summarized below:

June 22, 1716 through April 19, 1782      documents 3-240      [Frames 53-408]

**Note:** Since Boudinot served as Commissary General of Prisoners between May 1777 to May 1778, most of the selected documents date from this period, but correspondence relating to the closeout of his Commissary General responsibilities, especially financial obligations, continue sporadically in this Reel until June 1781.

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

17. October 30, 1778 [66]  
Statement of account from October 20, 1777 to October 30, 1778 of Elias Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners for the United States, with Lewis Pintard [see notes on Boudinot after document 26 and on Pintard after document 33]
25. November 22, 1776 [83]  
Note from J. Harner at Reading to [Boudinot?] stating that “*An Exchange having taken place,*” seeking leave to go to the army by way of Princeton [whether or not this was an exchange of prisoners of war is not clear]
26. July 17, 1776 [83]  
Note from David Pinkerton, Chair of the Committee [?], at Trenton, conveying an order from the Provincial Congress of New Jersey to [Boudinot?] and sending to him, on their way to York, 4 named British officer prisoners of war along with 1 child, two women, and their servants, with their baggage to follow  
[**Note:** In this Reel, references to “Boudinot” refer to Elias Boudinot. After his brother Elisha Boudinot first appears, all Boudinot references are identified as either “Elias” or “Elisha.”]

**[Note: Elias Boudinot** (1740-1821), a Philadelphian and friend of Benjamin Franklin, was appointed in May 1777 by General Washington to oversee American prisoner-of-war affairs. His appointment included a commission as colonel in the Continental Army. Before this time, the various colonies, had dealt with prisoners of war on their own, in their own ways. Evidence such as this letter shows that he was among those involved early in prisoner-of-war matters. Early colleagues whose correspondence with Boudinot is found below included Joshua Mersereau (Massachusetts plus also New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut), Lewis Pintard (New York City until forced to leave), and John Adam (with the Continental Army Camp north of New York). Until the battles of Trenton and Princeton in late 1776 and early 1777, few prisoners of war had been captured by the Americans. By early 1777, the Continental Congress and Washington's army began to respond to the growing need for places to incarcerate, feed, and otherwise manage large numbers of prisoners.]

28. November 26, 1776 [84]  
"Return of [number of American] *Prisoners taken by the British Army*" between August 27 and November 20, 1776 at Long Island, New York, White Plains, Fort Washington, and Fort Lee, with numbers listed by rank for a total of 4,479 prisoners [microfilmed also in frame 86]
29. January 5, 1777 [93]  
Letter to Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners [for the United States] from Joshua Mersereau at Boston, [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Massachusetts], stating that he has made contacts with New Hampshire and Rhode Island concerning prisoners of war; providing information about cartels to exchange American prisoners of war at New York and about prisoners of war in a British prison ship in New York  
**[Note: Joshua Mersereau** (1728, 1734, or 1738-1804), his brother **John Mersereau** (1731-1820), and John's son **John LaGrange Mersereau** (1757 or 1760-1841), came from a French Huguenot family living on Staten Island. Before the Revolution, the brothers had started the first organized stagecoach service in America, between New York and Philadelphia. During the Revolution, Joshua and his brother John (at least briefly) served as Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners. The three were also apparently involved in a shadowy intelligence network established personally by George Washington but perhaps managed through Boudinot. In 1776-1777, Joshua Mersereau was living in Boston, from where he became involved in prisoner-of-war matters in various states in New England.]
30. [no date] [94]  
Notes [by Boudinot] on and quotes from correspondence from Joshua Loring [British Commissary of Prisoners at New York] relating to American prisoners of war, with dates of March 24, 1777, April 24, 1777, May 24, 1777, June 9, 1777, August 2, 1777, September 20, 1777, September 24, 1777, October 25, 1777, December 23, 1777, and January 15, 1778

[**Note: Joshua Loring Jr** (1744-1789), a Boston-born loyalist, was British Commissary General for Prisoners, stationed at New York, from 1777 through 1783.]

31. April 29, 1777 [96]  
“*Minutes [written by Boudinot] of a Letter from Convention of New York to Congress...now in War Office*”, concerning the “*Case of [British] Major Gunniston*”, apprehended as a prisoner-of-war and attempting to be exchanged
32. December 1, 1777 [97]  
Notes [by Boudinot] about prisoner-of-war dealings with [H.] Hugh Ferguson, [a Pennsylvania loyalist] and Commissary of Prisoners in General [William] Howe’s army with a follow-up note dated December 3, 1777
33. May 19, 1777 [99]  
Letter from Pintard at New York to Boudinot, acknowledging receipt of commission as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, returning it, stating that “*I cannot hold the same, and I must inform you that I believe no person bearing the like would be permitted to remain in this City & act under it*”; stating, however, that Loring is allowing Pintard to remain in New York to receive provisions for American prisoners of war; describing his work to facilitate prisoner exchanges; describing other negotiations with Loring  
[**Note: Lewis Pintard** (1732-1818) was a wealthy merchant living in New York as the Revolution began. Boudinot appears to have done business with him before the war. The Boudinot and Pintard families were also related by marriage, through the family of Richard Stockton, New Jersey signer of the Declaration of Independence. (In 1759, Pintard had married Richard Stockton’s sister Susanna; she died before the Revolution in 1772. Meanwhile, Richard Stockton had married Elias Boudinot’s sister Annis.) Before Boudinot became Commissary General of Prisoners, Pintard had been working with him from his base in New York City on prisoner-of-war matters. After Boudinot’s appointment as Commissary General, he in turn got his colleague and friend Pintard appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for New York City. However, as this letter explains, Pintard was unable to function in his new position. The British refused to recognize his appointment, and soon Pintard was forced to leave his home in New York.]

34. June 6, 1777 [102]  
“*Copy of a Letter from David Franks Esq<sup>r</sup> Commissary for the English & other Prisoners Captivated by the American Army*”, concerning providing provisions for British prisoners of war held in Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania; followed by February 8, 1776  
“*Extract of letters from Daniel Chamiers Esquire His Britanic Majestys Commissary General of Stores & Provisions [at Boston] to D Franks Comm<sup>y</sup> of Prisoners*”, concerning continuing to “*Victual his Majestys*” troops who are prisoners of war; followed by February 25, 1777  
Quote from letter, apparently from Franks at New York to Chamiers, concerning continuing to “victual” British prisoners of war  
[Note: **Daniel Chamiers** (1722-1778) was a loyalist from Maryland. He served between 1774 and 1777 as the British Commissary General in America, which included responsibility, as the war began, for provisioning British prisoners of war. Joshua Loring replaced him in 1777, apparently because he was not competent to do the job. **David Franks** (1720-1794), a loyalist merchant from Philadelphia, served for a relatively short time as British Commissary of Prisoners before proving his own lack of competence and being imprisoned by the Americans.]
35. June 18, 1777 [104]  
Letter from James Mease at Philadelphia to Boudinot at Headquarters, sending clothing “*for the use of the poor prisoners*”
36. [no date] [106]  
“*Extract of a Letter from the Col. of Prince William County in Virginia*” to [Boudinot?] asking “*Pray what does the Congress propose to do with the Hessian Prisoners at Dumfries*”, which location he feels is too exposed to possible recapture by a British ship coming up the Potomac River; suggesting Winchester as a safer site  
[Note: **Dumfries, Virginia** is located up a side channel of the Potomac River just north of today’s Marine Corps Base at Quantico. Not long after this letter was written, Winchester was indeed selected as Virginia’s primary location to incarcerate enemy prisoners for the remainder of the war.]
37. July 25, 1777 [107]  
“*Extract of a Letter from the deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Hartford*” to [Boudinot], concerning proper “*Bounds, Limits & manner of Confinement*” for particular high-ranking British prisoners of war, such as “*the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Prescott*”; with a much later newspaper clipping on “Prescott’s Burial-Place” pasted at the bottom of the page, containing references to Prescott’s death in 1795 and his wife’s death in 1821 [the original letter from which this extract was taken is found in document 38]

[**Note:** This Prescott is not American Colonel William Prescott but British **General Richard Prescott** (1725-1788). He managed to become a prisoner-of-war twice during the Revolutionary War, first in 1776 as the Americans captured Montreal and second, more humiliatingly, being surprised getting out of bed in the house he was occupying in Rhode Island. His first exchange was routine, but the second was memorable, in that he was exchanged for American Major General Charles Lee, who also had been surprised and captured in bed.]

38. July 25, 1777 [108]  
Letter from Joshua Mersereau at Hartford to [Boudinot], concerning various prisoner-of-war matters and news of military movements at New York, including exchange activities, difficulties with provisions for American prisoners, and treatment of high-ranking prisoners of war
39. July 30, 1777 [110]  
Official document from the "*Council Chamber Boston*" stating that "*The Bearer Joshua Mersereau Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Commissary of Prisoners who it seems has Directions to Collect the Prisoners in this state and confine & Provide for them in the Barracks Ordered by Congress sometime since to be built in the County of Worcester and in case said Barracks were not finished he is recommended as a suitable Prison to advise in the Building & finishing them & for this purpose he waits upon you*"; followed by  
August 2, 1777  
First several lines of letter by [?] at Princeton [Massachusetts, now a rural area north of Worcester] to [?] arguing the "absolute Necessity" of building the Barracks at Worcester, as stated in a letter of which Joshua Mersereau is the bearer
40. August 5, 1777 [111]  
Letter from John Adam [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at Camp at Peekskill to Boudinot at "*Head Quarters [of the Continental Army] at West New Jersey*", concerning various prisoner-of-war matters; commenting on the advance of Lieutenant General Burgoyne's army southward  
[**Note:** After early service as a deputy commissary connected to the Continental Army, **John Adam** was reassigned to Elizabeth, New Jersey, where he played a key role until the end of the war, managing the logistical process of prisoner exchanges by moving British/German prisoners from locations mostly in Pennsylvania (especially Philadelphia and Lancaster) to New York, while moving American prisoners from New York City, the British prison ships, and Long Island to Elizabeth where they were released.]
41. August 7, 1777 [114]  
Extract of document of the Council of Safety of the State of New York, resolving that Abraham B. Bancker be appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in this state in place of Christopher Bancker, who had resigned

42. [no date] [115]  
 Statement by Boudinot, recognizing that “*The Exchange of prisoners being likely to take Place, it may not be amiss, to endeavor to put the department relating to Prisoners on a proper footing, in order to avoid in future the many difficulties & Confusions that have heretofore arisen*”; therefore recommending a ten-point administrative plan, including 1) establishing a deputy in each state, 2) providing three sets of stockaded prison-barracks to separate prisoners from inhabitants and guard the prisoners, 3) forming a plan to return all prisoners taken at sea; 4) and 5) providing physicians, surgeons, and medical care in hospitals to benefit prisoners, 6) providing all needed supplies for enemy prisoners, for which David Franks, British Commissary General[ in New York] will be expected to “*pay the reasonable market Price in Gold or Silver, or such other Currency as the Enemy will accept or the support of our Prisoners with them*” and not allowing him to purchase from any other source, 7) authorizing the American Commissary General of Prisoners to supply needed provisions for American prisoners using the money collected from Franks, 8) expecting to treat enemy prisoners in the same way as the British treat American prisoners, 9) that the existing provision that officer prisoners be provided two dollars [per month?] for provisions be repealed in favor of the recommended provisioning process outlined above, and 10) that Congress require states to keep accounts of their expenditures on prisoners of war  
**[Note: Elias Boudinot** probably wrote this statement soon after being appointed the first Commissary General of Prisoners for the United States in May 1777. His first priority was to organize the network of prisons and deputy commissaries of prisoners needed to manage the thousands of British and German prisoners captured by American troops throughout the Revolutionary War. Sometime in May 1778, **John Beatty** succeeded Boudinot as Commissary General, serving until May 1780, after which he was replaced by **Abraham Skinner**, who had previously served as a deputy commissary beginning in 1779. Skinner held the position from September 1780 until the end of the war. Boudinot appointed the first group of deputy commissaries, including **Lewis Pintard** (for New York City, whom the British refused to allow to serve), **Joshua Mersereau**, and **John Adam**, but also others whose correspondence is found in this Finding Aid, especially **William Atlee** (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) and **Thomas Bradford** (Philadelphia).]
43. August 27, 1777 [117]  
 Declaration by British General William Howe concerning his intention that his troops act with proper discipline against American inhabitants and their property; encouraging Americans now in arms against Britain to “*Return to their Free Obligations*”

44. August 12, 1777 [119]  
Letter from John Adam at Camp at Peekskill to Boudinot at Headquarters in New Jersey, concerning the lack of sufficient safe places to confine prisoners of war since planned barracks have not yet been built; concerning the fate of Tory Edmond Palmer, who was accused of spying "*and should be Hangd*"; concerning reports of a British fleet off of Nantucket; concerning other news
45. August 14, 1777 [121]  
Letter from James Lovell at Philadelphia to Boudinot at Headquarters, seeking information about Charles Hughes, on behalf of his distressed wife, "*a Swiss who speaks several Languages besides the English and how left Philad<sup>a</sup> in Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1776 for France and was taken in his Home voyage*" and is now a "*Prisoner or Volunteer*"; wishing to know "*his real Situation*"  
[Note: **James Lovell** (1737-1814), a Boston educator, had been imprisoned by British troops as a dissident shortly after the Battle of Bunker Hill. After being evacuated to Halifax when the British left Boston, he was soon exchanged. Back in Boston, he was elected to the Continental Congress, in which he served until 1782. This explains why Lovell wrote this letter while at Philadelphia. It does not explain what relationship Lovell had with the Charles Hughes family.]
46. September 3, 1777 [122]  
Letter from Pintard at New York to [Boudinot], seeking assistance in sending "necessaries" for American prisoners of war at New York; concerning other provisions matters with Franks
47. August 2, 1777 [124]  
Copy of letter from Pintard at New York to [Boudinot], concerning hopes for delivery of clothing for prisoners of war by British vessels into New York
48. September 20, 1777 [126]  
Letter from Pintard at New York to [Boudinot], concerning flour and clothing for prisoners of war; difficulties of getting needed money to American prisoners of war and its insufficiency
49. September 24, 1777 [128]  
Letter from Pintard at New York to [Boudinot], concerning supplies received for prisoners of war; concerning insufficiency of supplies, especially for the privates; concerning difficulties with berthing and unloading ships [microfilming cut off sides of this letter]

50. October 10, 1777 [132]  
Copy of letter from General William Howe [British army commander in North America] at Headquarters at Germantown [Pennsylvania] to Lord George Germain [British Secretary of State for North America, in London], stating that American losses at Brandywine were considerable; providing numbers and details  
**[Note:** At the **Battle of Brandywine** (September 11, 1777), the British convincingly defeated the Americans, opening the way for the British to occupy Philadelphia (September 26). A few days later, the Americans lost a final engagement designed to recapture Philadelphia, at the **Battle of Germantown** (October 4).]
51. November 6, 1777 [133]  
Copy of letter from Chamier at New York to [Boudinot], reporting on exchanges he has helped with and money he has paid out; asking that Boudinot inform Robert Morris about the payments
52. November 4 & 7, 1777 [134]  
Letter from John Adam at Fishkill to Boudinot, concerning returns of prisoners and movement of prisoners following the surrender of Burgoyne's army at Saratoga, including a general accounting of "*our Success in the norer'd [northward] campaign*"; describing the surrender after negotiation of the Convention, including the "*haughtiness*" of the British soldiers as they gave up their arms and the contrasting "*coolness*" of the American soldiers; including other military news  
**[Note:** On October 17, 1777, British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British army to American Major General Horatio Gates after the **Battle of Saratoga** in what was a major turning-point battle in the Americans' fight for Independence from Britain. Besides reversing the momentum of relentless British victories, this battle greatly increased the number of prisoners to be managed by the American prisoner-of-war network. However, these prisoners rarely found their way into the prisons operated by the commissaries of prisoners. This occurred because of the unusual "convention" agreed to on the battlefield on October 17, 1777 between Generals Burgoyne and Gates. Its provisions called for Burgoyne's captured troops to be paroled and shipped home to Europe, prohibited from returning to fight in America again. Since Congress never ratified this controversial agreement, the paroles were never granted, and the prisoners were never sent home.



Instead, they were kept together as the so-called **Convention Army** (often referred to in these documents as “Convention Troops” and were marched from one location to another for the duration of the war. They were moved from time to time both to avoid proximity to military action and to allow them to “live off the land.” Thus, they were not incarcerated by or provisioned by the commissary of prisoners network, except for some who were wounded or ill, those who had deserted, or those who had committed domestic crimes. If they were too ill or severely wounded to travel, or once they were recaptured after desertion or committing a crime, they were often sent to one of the network’s prisons. References are scattered through the documents of this Finding Aid about the unique group of British and German prisoners of war called the “Convention Army” or “Convention Troops.” Many of these references document the occasional entry of Convention Army deserters or criminals into the established prisoner-of-war prisons. In particular, the Boudinot Papers and Atlee Papers include documents pertaining to the Convention Troops. As Commissary General of Prisoners, Boudinot’s 1777-1778 correspondence reflects the big picture of all American prisoner-of-war operations. Atlee’s correspondence, Lancaster provisions returns, and Lancaster prisoner-of-war lists, especially during 1781 and 1782, reflect the Lancaster prisoner-of-war operation’s accommodation of many Convention Troops who could no longer march with the Army.]

**[Note: Major General Horatio Lloyd Gates (1727-1806)** had a long but mixed military career. In the British Army, he was sent to North America during the Seven Years’ War, where he met George Washington. When the military was reduced following that war, Gates’ career stalled. Seeking opportunity, he left England and settled in Virginia. By 1772, he had reestablished contact with Washington, and in 1775 he became an early military leader in the Continental Army, as a Brigadier General and the first American Adjutant General. By 1777, having been promoted to Major General and placed in command of the Northern Army, he greatly enhanced his career by forcing the surrender of British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne’s army at Saratoga.

But thereafter, he became embroiled in the Conway Affair, an intrigue within the army against its commander-in-chief General Washington that was exposed, with negative consequences for Gates. By 1780 he emerged from under this cloud as commander of the Southern Army. But after he disastrously lost the Battle of Camden, was replaced by General Nathanael Greene, and was subjected to an inquiry into his conduct during the battle, his military career never fully recovered.]

**[Note: Lieutenant General John Burgoyne (1722-1792)**, like his Saratoga adversary, was a career military man in the British Army. Unlike Gates, however, his career remained solidly with the British. After successful leadership during the Seven Years' War in campaigns in northern France and then Portugal, he had been promoted to Major General by the beginning of the American Revolutionary War and to Lieutenant General by 1777. In Canada, he fought successfully under General Guy Carleton, helping drive the invading Americans out of Quebec territory. He then conceived and had the political clout to be placed in command of the British army that sought to split the American states along the Hudson River, potentially isolating New England for British re-conquest.

In October 1777, this plan and Burgoyne's military career were both dashed at Saratoga by Major General Gates' victory and Burgoyne's surrender. After negotiating the battlefield Convention with Gates, Burgoyne returned to England to defend his decisions and account for his defeat. Back home, he turned to politics and a seat in Parliament, which he occupied until his unexpected death in 1792.]

53. November 11, 1777 [138]

Letter from Jacobus Van Zandt at Morristown [New Jersey] to Boudinot, passing on information from New York about the "*Sufference and Ill treatment of our poor prisoners at that place*" and that "*If they are not speedly Supplyd with necessaries of Life, they must all perish Soon*"

**[Note: Jacobus Van Zandt** came from a New York Dutch family, a branch of which had moved to Southampton, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, northeast of Philadelphia, in 1708.]

54. November 15, 1777 [139]

Letter from Pintard at New Windsor [New York, just south of Newburgh up the North (Hudson) River from New York], concerning Ensign William H. Adamson, a British prisoner-of-war on parole, for whom Governor [George] Clinton seeks to obtain a parole extension to go to New York for needed medical attention; seeking to have Adamson exchanged for American prisoner-of-war Ensign McGlaughery, if this can be arranged; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters

**[Note: George Clinton (1739-1812)** was governor of New York from 1777 until 1795. Later, he served as Vice President of the United States from 1805 to 1812.]

55. November 23, 1777 [141]

Copy of letter from General Washington at Headquarters to General Howe [at New York], stating that "*I am Compelled by repeated Complaints of the inhuman treatment still shown to the unhappy Prisoners in your Hands, to call upon you for a clear & complete Answer*" about the situation; stating that "*Their Sufferings demand immediate redress, and unless I obtain the most satisfactory assurances on this Head, duty will constrain me to retaliate instantly on the Prisoners in my Possession*"

56. November 28, 1777 [142]  
Letter from Robert Lettis Hooper Jr, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton [Pennsylvania] to Boudinot, concerning an enclosed list of prisoners of war at Easton [not microfilmed here]; concerning parole and bond for Mr. Dykens and complaints made about him by the Council of Pennsylvania; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters  
[Note: Robert Lettis Hooper Jr (c. 1730-1797) of New Jersey served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton from at least November 1777 through May 1780, when he lost his job because of suspicions he was a Tory. He also served as a Deputy Quartermaster General for a region around Easton from 1776 until 1780, when this job was abolished in a reorganization.]
57. February 2, 1778 [144]  
Hurried note from [Boudinot?] at New York to Ezekiel Williams, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, instructing Williams *“that you will not suffer an Officer to come in here, again, until you hear from me”* because of *“the Situation of Things here”*; promising to write him via express as soon as he arrives in New Jersey  
[Note: Ezekiel Williams (1729-1818) was a merchant from Wethersfield, Connecticut, a town south of Hartford on the Connecticut River. He served as deputy commissary of prisoners for prisoner-of-war matters within the State of Connecticut. What Williams or an officer answerable to him was doing in New York at this time is not clear.]
58. November 30, 1777 [144]  
Letter from John Adam at *“Maranek”* to [Boudinot?], conveying news of various matters relating to American prisoners of war in New York  
[Note: The location might be Mamaroneck, New York, northeast of New York on Long Island Sound. Since Adam’s usual territory had been north of New York, up the North (Hudson) River, with the Continental Army Camp why he was around on the other side of New York is not clear.]
59. December 1, 1777 [145]  
Copy of letter from Titus Levie, [British] Commissary of Prisoners at New York, to Robert Pierpont, [Commissary of Prisoners for the State of Massachusetts], reporting that British General Howe has selected Rhode Island, rather than New York, for the location of an exchange of prisoners from Boston
60. December 3, 1777 [145]  
Copy of letter from Loring to Pierpont stating that Captain Thomas Randall is to be exchanged for Captain Hamilton Maxwell, but that he is ordered by General Howe not to conduct any more exchanges until a general exchange is arranged, and that officer prisoners of war will remain on parole until exchanged; followed by a note stating that, at the request of Crane Brush, his wife and children should be placed on the first cartel to Rhode Island

61. December 7, 1777 [147]  
 Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, reporting on having moved certain listed prisoners of war from Monmouth County [New Jersey] to [Reading, Pennsylvania] where Henry Haller was deputy commissary of prisoners; requesting "*please to send me some money*"  
**[Note: Henry Haller (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 through sometime in 1782.]**
62. December 22, 1777 [148]  
 Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, reporting on having implemented an ordered lock down on British prisoners of war; concerning other difficulties in managing the prison; concerning having corrected a previously reported list of prisoners of war
63. December 27, 1777 [151]  
 Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, reporting on having received 50 prisoners of war from Princeton, 48 of them Germans and of having sent other British prisoners of war to [Reading]; stating that he now has two sons in the Continental Army, which is putting a financial strain on him
64. December 31, 1777 [153]  
 Extract of letter from [Boudinot] to H. Hugh Ferguson, concerning sending flour up the Delaware River to New Castle and Christeen [Christina] [a pair of forts south of Wilmington on the Delaware side of the Delaware River]; with concerns about the ability to get there safely, to be delivered to Thomas Franklin [a Quaker merchant, apparently not a relative of Benjamin Franklin, who assisted in providing supplies and provisions for prisoners of war], "*agreeable to what passed between us, when on the lines*" [full copy of this letter is found in the Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, document 88] followed by January 10, 1778  
 Extract of letter from [Boudinot] to [?] concerning a planned shipment of flour, Indian corn, and other provisions for [American] prisoners of war [at Philadelphia]; stating his understanding that General Howe would approve this shipment, but now learning that he had not; therefore, holding the shipment from sailing [full copy of this letter is found in the Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, document 106]
65. [no date] [154]  
 "*Lists of expences which have been paid & are yet to Pay on acc<sup>t</sup> of Continental Prisoners taken from Rob<sup>t</sup> Pierpoints [Pierpont's] Books who has acted as Commissary of Prisoners for the State of Massachusetts bay*", with detailed entries dated from June 15, 1777 through February 5, 1778

66. January 1, 1778 [157]  
Letter from John Hollinsworth at Head of Elk to Boudinot, or in his absence Daniel Clymer, concerning making the trip up the Delaware River with provisions for prisoners of war at Philadelphia, stating that the provisions cannot be shipped by water and seeking instructions about sending them by land  
[Note: The **Head of Elk**, now Elkton, Maryland, is located at the head of navigation on the Elk River at the far northeastward extension of Chesapeake Bay, pointing toward Wilmington and Philadelphia.]  
[Note: **Colonel Daniel Clymer** (1748-1810) had been working on prisoner-of-war matters with Boudinot since at least August 1777. In December 1777, as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at the American Camp, he was appointed by Congress to be available temporarily to assume the duties of Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot, in his absence. On January 17, 1778, he was apparently replaced by Thomas Bradford as the Deputy Commissary at Camp.]
67. January 4, 1778 [160]  
Letter from Ezekiel Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot at Headquarters, with details of particular exchanges and other prisoner-of-war matters
68. January 4, 1778 [163]  
Letter from Hooper to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning the movement of prisoners of war; concerning setting up a hospital for ill prisoners; asking whether he should hire out German prisoners
69. January 6, 1778 [166]  
Letter from Robert Haughey at St. George's Hundred, New Castle County [rural territory south of New Castle in Delaware] to [Boudinot?], concerning sending provisions to Philadelphia for American prisoners of war; reporting plans to send the provisions in two vessels by water, with the necessary passports; requesting money to pay for the transactions
70. January 8, 1778 [166]  
Letter from J. Hockley at Glasgow [rural territory between Elkton, Maryland and New Castle, Delaware] to [Boudinot], concerning the availability of "*a large quantity of wheat*" that might be contracted for to send for the prisoners at Philadelphia
71. January 7, 1778 [168]  
Letter from William Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot, making a personal inquiry on behalf of the "*distressed*" family about a Captain Whitley or Wheatley of Lancaster County who "*either fell or was taken Prisoner in some of the late Action near Germantown or White Marsh*"; requesting any properly obtained information about whether he is a prisoner or killed; also copying into his letter a list by name of ten [British] prisoners of war on parole [perhaps to be considered to be exchanged for Whitley?]

**[Note: William Augustus Atlee** (1735-1793) was an attorney, born in Philadelphia but lived most of his life in Lancaster. As a leading patriot, and because **Lancaster**, along with Philadelphia, became an early, major destination for British and German prisoners of war, he became involved in managing the incarceration of prisoners of war at Lancaster. He served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster from 1776-1782. He also chaired Lancaster's Committee of Safety and Committee of Inspection and Observation during most of the war years, and served as a judge on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1777 to 1791. See the Atlee papers section of the DLAR microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts at the Library of Congress), which are included in this Finding Aid.]

72. January 10, 1778
[169]

"A General Return of [American] Prisoners", listed by category of location or disposition and by rank for a total of 3,173 prisoners; signed at Philadelphia by William Ferguson, [apparently a British] Commissary of Prisoners [apparently note the same but maybe a relative of Henry Hugh Ferguson?]
73. January 11, 1778
[170]

Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war matters in Connecticut
74. January 15, 1778
[170]

"a list of Hessian officers with their Servants in Fredericksburg in the State of Virginia", including 30 named prisoners of war, listed by regiment, with the number of servants for each, which total 32; signed by Joseph Holmes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia
75. January 16, 1778
[171]

Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot, forwarding a letter with £51 from Major Andrew Galbraith of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, requesting that the money be used to purchase provisions to be sent to New York to benefit his brother, Colonel Bartram Galbraith, an American prisoner-of-war, captured at Fort Washington
76. January 16, 1778
[171]

Extract of letter from H. Hugh Ferguson at Philadelphia to Boudinot, referring to correspondence between Generals Howe and Washington in relation to efforts to provision American prisoners of war at Philadelphia; stating further that "*no Flags are to be permitted in future to pass by water to this place, neither from above nor from below the City*"

77. January 21, 1778 [173]  
Letter from John Adam at Westfield [New Jersey, west of Elizabeth] to Boudinot, concerning the status and movements of particular prisoners of war; stating that a "*Desertion prevails amongst Burgoyne's Troops more so in the British than the Foreign of the former above six hundred*"; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
78. January 22, 1778 [175]  
William Chamberlain at Amwell [New Jersey, a rural township northwest of Princeton] to Boudinot, concerning the delivery of wheat flour to Elizabeth, New Jersey and concerning needs for other provisions [presumably for American prisoners of war at New York]
79. January 27, 1778 [176]  
Copy of letter from Chamier at New York to [?], informing the recipient that he had "*procured the releasement of M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Cavanaugh of St. Mary's County Maryland for you*" in a prisoner-of-war exchange; stating that "*I hope you will now have no difficulty to obtain your releasement*"
81. February 2, 1778 [179]  
Copy of petition to the Council of the State of Massachusetts Bay from Deputy Commissary of Prisoners J[oshua] M[ercereau], seeking state assistance in providing sufficient provisions for prisoners of war incarcerated near Rutland [Massachusetts, the location of a prison camp, northwest of Worcester]
82. December 22, 1777 [180]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war matters in detail
83. June 18, 1777 [183]  
Letter from James Barton at Staten Island "*New Blazeing Star*" to his wife Susan; apparently, based on the contents, not a prisoner-of-war but a loyalist [why this letter is found in the Boudinot papers is not clear]
84. February 6, 1778 [185]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerned about how many of his prisoners are sick or have died; observing that "*Easton is, by no means, a proper place for Officers*"; requesting advice on whether he should send officers to Reading; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters

85. February 7, 1778 [187]  
Draft statement [written in the third person, with numerous edits] from Boudinot at New York to Major General Robertson concerning the status of providing provisions to American prisoners of war at Philadelphia and to British prisoners of war, with suggestions for what provisions are needed and what should be done about providing them  
[Note: Major General James Robertson (1717-1788) was a career officer in the British Army. Before the war, he served for a number of years as barrack master at New York. At the time of this letter, he was still playing a military role as commandant in the city of New York. From 1779 to 1783, he played a different role, as civil governor of the British Province of New York.]  
[Note: In February 1778, Boudinot, following orders from General Washington, traveled to New York to **inspect the prisons** in which American prisoners of war were interred. He met both with Robertson and with General William Howe, who seems to have tried hard to put a positive spin on the conditions of prisoners—while also granting Boudinot some freedom to visit British jails, where Boudinot learned about and reported a bleaker picture of prisoner misery. Boudinot’s journal of this inspection trip is found in the collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and was published with notes by Helen Jordan in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Volume 24, No. 4 (1900), pages 453-466. Later, in about 1800, Boudinot wrote a summary of his inspection trip, which was published in *American History told by Contemporaries*, Volume II, pages 508-511, edited by Albert Bushnell Hart. Both of these are available online. Boudinot’s correspondence following this time contains many references to his attempts to exchange American prisoners of war he visited and named in his journal.]
86. February 20, 1778 [189]  
Note from Captain Murray at New York addressed to Mr. Pintard of Duke Street [no Duke Street exists now in New York City; in any case, it is unlikely Pintard was living in New York City after November 1777], informing him that “*every paper relative to the Prisoners should be sent to M<sup>r</sup> Loring who will present it to the General*”
87. February 25, 1778 [190]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war matters in detail
88. March 1, 1778 [192]  
Commission by Boudinot of Andrew Buchanan to serve as a deputy commissary of prisoners in Virginia, under the direction of Joseph Holmes
89. March 3, 1778 [193]  
Copy of statement by Joseph Simon that, while working as a deputy commissary to David Franks, he has never observed cruelty toward [American] prisoners of war; with details [see also documents 98 and 106]



[Note: This appears to be **Joseph Simon** of Lancaster County, a rural property owner from the 1750s and after. William Atlee did some real-estate law for him, and David Franks was a land-owner partner. Although he sided with the British in the Revolution, his sympathies appear to have been mixed. After the war, he remained living in Lancaster County.]

90. March 3, 1778 [193]  
Letter from John Adam at New Windsor [New York] to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning the movement of British prisoners of war, including some from Goshen [New York] to Wethersfield [Connecticut]; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
91. March 2, 1778 [194]  
Copy of petition of Joshua Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Massachusetts, at Boston, to the Council of the State of Massachusetts Bay, concerning the lack of "*Proper buildings & Guards*"; seeking action from the Council so that the prisoners of war can be guarded and housed properly
92. April 30, 1778 [196]  
Letter from Grace Webb to Boudinot, concerning her husband, apparently a British prisoner-of-war; telling his story and what she has tried to do to get him released or exchanged; seeking Boudinot's assistance
93. March 2, 1778 [199]  
Copy of another letter by Grace Webb to [?], concerning Mr. Webb's situation; seeking assistance
94. May 7, 1778 [201]  
Letter from Timothy Taylor at New [?] to Boudinot, unhappy that he is not to be included in an upcoming exchange, although other prisoners of war with less service have been selected for this exchange
95. February 28, 1778 [201]  
Letter from Robert Haughey to [Boudinot?], concerning difficulties in delivery of provisions, especially flour, by water for the American prisoners at Philadelphia; requesting "*Pray give me some Directions the Continual Bad Rodes hath Prevented my sending any by land to Philidelphia*"
96. February 21, 1778 [203]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot at Headquarters, expressing gratitude to Boudinot for his public service; apparently aware that Boudinot would soon be resigning his position of Commissary General of Prisoners because of his personal "*distress*"

97. February 21, 1778 [205]  
Letter from John Schenk at Millstone [probably New Jersey, a rural township east of Trenton] to Boudinot, concerning partial payment of \$1,000 made and further payment due him and an advance of another \$1,000 for delivery of flour for the prisoners of war
98. March 3, 1778 [207]  
Copy of statement by Joseph Simon that, while working under David Franks, as a deputy commissary of British prisoners in Philadelphia, he has never observed cruelty toward [British] prisoners of war; with details [very similar to document 89, with the same date; see also document 106]
99. March 6, 1778 [208]  
Note from John Denton at Princeton to [?] stating that he has delivered shoes to be sent the recipient [perhaps for prisoners of war?]
100. March 11, 1778 [208]  
Letter from John Adam at Fishkill to Boudinot, concerning exchanges of particular prisoners of war; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
101. March 12, 1778 [210]  
Letter from Abraham B. Bancker, Commissary of Prisoners for New York, at Marbletown, Ulster County, New York, [just west of Kingston] to Boudinot, including in its text a copy of a previous letter dated December 19, 1777, both concerning prisoner-of-war matters
102. March 12, 1778 [212]  
Letter from D. Clarkson at Flatbush [New York] to Boudinot, stating that Joel Wescoat, ensign in Colonel Cadwalader's Regiment, [and perhaps related to Richard Wescoat of Mays Landing, New Jersey; see note after Reel 5 document 639] apparently a prisoner-of-war who had escaped but perhaps was recaptured [?], owed Clarkson money, which he wishes Boudinot to "*procure...or put me in a Way of how I Can get it*"
103. March 15, 1778 [214]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot at Headquarters, stating that two prisoners of war had been locked up again after "*they, with some acquaintance, were taking a Boose*"
104. March 16, 1778 [216]  
Letter from John Adam at Fishkill to Boudinot, concerning difficulties in sending provisions into New York for American prisoners via Pintard

105. March 16, 1778 [218]  
Letter from Joseph Simon at Lancaster to Boudinot, stating that he has gone home from Philadelphia; thanking Boudinot for favors and offering favors in return "*when you shall be pleased to Command*"
106. March 19, 1778 [219]  
Statement of Myer Hart, who worked under David Frank caring for British prisoners of war at Easton, affirming that he observed "nothing like cruelty" in the treatment of the prisoners of war [see also documents 89 and 98]
107. March 21, 1778 [220]  
Letter from John Adam at Fishkill to Boudinot, concerning ongoing difficulties obtaining British permission to send vessels with prisoner-of-war provisions to New York for the American prisoners of war there
108. March 21, 1778 [222]  
Letter from Thomas Peters, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at York [Pennsylvania] to Boudinot at Headquarters at Valley Forge, concerning prisoner-of-war matters
109. March 23, 1778 [225]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, concerning his accounts; concerning being "*attentive to the Sick*" and the need for a mattress; stating again his sense of loss that Boudinot will be resigning
110. March 28, 1778 [225]  
Letter from Boudinot "*at Camp*" to Hooper, stating that, while in New York, he found that three American officers were interred in the Provost prison; comparing their situation to that of three British prisoners of war recently sent from Trenton to Easton; stating that "*You will therefore be pleased to confine those Gentlemen without delay, letting them know the Reason of the severity towards them*"
111. March 31, 1778 [228]  
Letter from David Potter at Cohaney Bridge, New Jersey, to [Boudinot], stating that he had been made a prisoner-of-war of the British while serving in his local militia unit, on its way to reinforce General Washington's army; having been granted parole to seek exchange but that parole scheduled to end soon, requesting assistance in being exchanged

112. [no date] [228]  
Text of a statement by Colonel William Grayson, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Hanson Harrison, Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hamilton, and Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot, under authority of General Washington, concerning differences in execution of the August 1776 agreement between General Washington and General Howe for the exchange of prisoners of war; stating the specific articles believed to be "*in full force & Effect between the aforementioned armies*" as the basis for handling prisoner exchanges; quoting text of articles numbered 1 through 6 and 12 through 14 [nine manuscript pages of this document are microfilmed, very much out of order]  
[Note: For more on this general exchange effort, see "Colonel Elias Boudinot's Notes on Two Conferences Held by the American and British Commissioners to Settle a General Cartel for the Exchange of Prisoners of War, 1778" in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography*, XXIV (1900): 291-305.]  
[Note: **Colonel William Grayson** (1740-1790), a lawyer and statesman from Virginia, had been an aide to General Washington before being selected for this special commission on prisoners of war. Later he served in the War Office and later yet as a U.S. Senator from Virginia.]  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Robert Hanson Harrison** (1745-1790) was a Virginia attorney, who served as General Washington's military secretary. He was apparently not related to the "famous" Benjamin Harrison family.]  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hamilton** (1755 or 1757-1804) was at this time an aide to General Washington. He served later in the war as a military commander. After the war, he became a leading "Founding Father," most notably by contributing to writing the Federalist Papers, helping found the Federalist Party, and serving as the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury.]  
[Note: This **Commission for Prisoner Exchange**, with commissioners appointed by both General Washington and General Howe, was created to regularize rules between the two combatting armies for both the treatment of and exchange of prisoners of war. The product was to be a "treaty and convention for the exchange of prisoners of war, etc." This document is Boudinot's copy of the resulting agreement, or perhaps a draft, negotiated by the commissioners. However, what is microfilmed here appears to be incomplete, with the pages microfilmed in the wrong order.]
113. [no date] [233]  
Table of "*Sales of Flour*", by date, from January 16 through April 11, 1778, including the amount of flour and the value, totaling £1,383.11.9

114. April 4, 1778 [234]  
Statement made at Philadelphia by Lieutenant Colonel William Edminston of the 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment and Captain Robert McCrea of the Queen's Rangers, British prisoners of war at Reading, concerning another prisoner-of-war there, [Captain] William Nichols [of the Packet Eagle], who had been granted parole to Philadelphia and was alleged to have written to Edminston and McCrae about how they might escape; stating that they had never had any communication with Nichols after he left Reading on parole  
[Note: **Captain William Nichols** (1758-1780) was a merchant sea captain from Cornwall. During the American Revolution he captained the packet Eagle between Cornwall and the rebellious American Colonies—and was captured. For more on the charges against Captain Nichols, see document 155 in the Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1775 and two other documents in this reel, document 117, also dated April 4, 1778 and document 125 dated April 17, 1778. The rest of this story is not told in these papers.]
115. April 4, 1778 [235]  
Letter from Boudinot at Camp to Daniel Hughes, concerning his appointment as deputy commissary of prisoners for the State of Maryland; stating that he is expecting his successor as Commissary General to arrive soon, and that this appointment would more properly come from him, but assuring Hughes that his appointment was assured as of the date he took charge of his prisoners of war
116. April 4, 1778 [235]  
Extract of letter from Governor [William] Livingston of New Jersey, at Princeton, to [?], passing on the "*almost universal clamer against the flag Boats (as they are called) which pass from this State to New York with provision for our prisoners*"; explaining that these boats are thought by "jealous" patriots to be carrying goods for private gain for private people; also suggesting that New Jersey patriots cannot be trusted to guard enemy prisoners of war being moved through the state; suggesting that Boudinot, or his successor if he is too ill, should do something to ensure that the provisioning and exchange of prisoners of war be strictly controlled  
[Note: **William Livingston** (1723-1790) served as Governor of New Jersey from 1776 until his death in 1790. He was a member of the powerful, extended family of Livingstons who had settled on the Hudson River in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century and owned a large and wealthy estate north of present-day Rhinebeck. Other distant Livingston relatives also were leaders during the Revolutionary period, including Philip Livingston, New York merchant and signer of the Declaration of Independence and Robert Livingston, the first Chancellor (top judicial official) of the State of New York and U.S. Secretary of Foreign Affairs during negotiation of the Paris Peace Treaty in 1783. Later, as U.S. Minister to France, Robert Livingston negotiated the Louisiana Purchase.]

117. April 4, 1778 [237]  
Certificate signed at Philadelphia by Alan Bamerond that Captain Nichols of the Packet Eagle never said or wrote anything to him or any other prisoners about ways and means of escaping [see note after document 114]
118. April 4, 1778 [237]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Atlee, concerning the "*Hardships of paying hard Cash for our Dollars*" since "*the Enemy have prohibited the Circulation of our Currency, have Counterfeited & publickly advertised it for sale*"; stating that it is better to endure this hardship than leave American prisoners of war in British jails; concerning a successor for Boudinot's position, stating that he had no good ideas for the proper person "*after your refusing it*"; concerning the protocols of prisoner exchanges, including the opinion that "*I think every Negroe should be kept as private Property till they leave off stealing ours*"
119. April 4, 1778 [239]  
Letter from Boudinot at Camp to Major General Gates, then President of the Board of War, notifying Gates "*that Generall Lee is permitted to come to Camp, and I have entered into the Exchange of [American Lieutenant] Coll [Ethan] Allen for [British Lieutenant] Coll [Archibald] Campbell*"  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell** of Killeen (1739-1791) was one of several Scottish Campbells, from different branches of the clan, who rose to high ranks in the British Army during this period. The exchange of Campbell for Allen was completed on May 8, 1778.]  
[Note: The ambitious **Major General Horatio Gates** sought to take advantage of General Washington's limited political support in Congress. His supporters got him appointed president of the War Board (making him technically Washington's civilian boss at the same time that he was Washington's military subordinate). Gates' political machinations soon "blew up" when he was implicated in the so-called **Conway Cabal**, a conspiracy within the military to discredit Washington and get him replaced. Gates remained a general, but not president of the War Board, and clearly subordinate to Washington.]  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen** had been captured by the British during the American campaign against Canada in 1775. He remained a prisoner-of-war until Boudinot, who had visited with Allen as a prisoner in New York in February 1778, finally arranged his exchange for Campbell.]
120. April 7, 1778 [239]  
Letter from British prisoner-of-war Thomas Webb at Philadelphia to Boudinot, concerning issues about his exchange

121. April 9, 1778 [242]  
Letter from Joseph Simon at Lancaster to Boudinot, concerning a complaint against Simon by the War Board relating to his "*Victualling the [American] Prisoners*" of war; explaining the circumstances and that he had accepted only "good" money; stating that he had informed David Franks that he could accept only specie in the future
122. April 11, 1778 [242]  
"*Wood Account*" of expenses for the supply and cutting of wood [for prisoners of war], with total expenses of £98.8.9
123. April 15, 1778 [244]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp at Valley Forge to Colonel Charles O'Hara, enclosing the latest newspapers, as promised
124. April 17, 1778 [245]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Pintard, stating that he is wrapping up his official duties and accounts; looking forward to working with Pintard on private matters
125. April 17, 1778 [245]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp at Valley Forge to H. Hugh Ferguson, concerning Captain Nichols, whom he cannot find and supposes "*to be either deserted or dead*"; concerning Thomas Webb's "*imprudent Conduct*", concerning Captain Fenwick, who "*very imprudently purchased a House at Reading, which was my Duty agreeable to my Orders to have taken from him*"; concerning other similar matters [see note after document 114]
126. April 18, 1778 [246]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Atlee, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters
127. April 20, 1778 [246]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp at Valley Forge to H. Hugh Ferguson, stating that Boudinot has sent Loring an exchange of officers; stating displeasure at accounts received "*of the Cruelty of your Provost Marchal (Cunningham) to our Prisoners in the old Goal*"; stating "*Permit me Sir to intreat the interposition of your kind offices in favour of humanity & indeed of your own officers*"
128. April 18, 1778 [247]  
Receipt signed by Andrew Brown for having received a letter for John Winslow, Commissary of Prisoners at New York, containing hard money plus \$2,000 "*for John Coverhoven, Esq<sup>r</sup>. to pay for provisions sent to the Prisoners in New York*"

129. April 21, 1778 [248]  
 Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, concerning difficulties with about 30 prisoners of war from Burgoyne's army, passing through under the guard of a division of New Hampshire troops, who are "*the most Villanous Rascals—they plotted here to break of and rush to Mr. [General] Howe*"
130. April 25, 1778 [249]  
 Letter from Major J. Mauritius Goetschens of Bergen County, New Jersey, to Boudinot, reporting on the reported bad conditions of Bergen County prisoners of war in New York
131. [no date] [249]  
 Letter from Joshua Mersereau to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war matters, especially in relation to a Mr. Fell in New York [microfilmed a second time in frame 250]  
**[Note:** This may refer to **Judge John Fell** of New Jersey. Known to the British as a "Tory Hunter," he had been captured and was imprisoned in New York.]
132. April 28, 1778 [250]  
 Letter from Goetschens to Boudinot, with more details about the conditions of Bergen County prisoners of war in New York, pleading with Boudinot "*to contrive some method to have them removed from that place*"
133. May 1, 1778 [252]  
 Letter from John Adam at Fishkill to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war matters, especially those relating to Ensign William H. Adamson
134. May 2, 1778 [254]  
 Letter from Edward Antill to Boudinot or, in his absence, Pintard, seeking information about his exchange  
**[Note: Edward Antill** (1742-1789), who was living in Canada before the Revolution, joined the American cause early, becoming a leader, as Lieutenant Colonel, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Regiment, also known as Congress' Own or Hazen's Regiment. In August 1777, he was captured at Staten Island. Imprisoned on a British prison ship at New York, he was not exchanged until November 1780. His father, Edward Antill (1701-1770) was a New Jersey plantation owner, who pioneered in the growing and vinting of grapes in America. A later, printed but undated document, microfilmed with this letter, references an October 29, 1774 letter from Antill to a Rev. Dr. William Smith about "*the vine, the culture and Benefit of Vineyards and the making of Wine*")



136. May 5, 1778 [256]  
Letter from William Gillegsten [?] to Boudinot, concerning John Reid, a quartermaster in Colonel Rawlings' regiment, who was taken prisoner-of-war at Fort Washington, about whom Ensign Morgan Connell has also written to Boudinot, seeking assistance in his exchange
137. May 6, 1778 [258]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at New York to Joshua Mersereau, ordering Mersereau "*to Send in to Rhode Island without delay, the following Prisoners of War*" for exchange, listing 11 British prisoners of war by name and regiment, and including related orders; concerning exchange of Lieutenant Colonel Campbell; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
138. May 6, 1778 [260]  
Letter from Lieutenant Matthew Knox of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania Battalion at Flatbush, American prisoner-of-war, stating that he is the "*oldest Lieutenant in Rank of the Prisoners taken at Fort Washington*"; requesting assistance with his exchange
139. May 6, 1778 [260]  
Letter from Lieutenant Thomas H. Lockett, American prisoner-of-war taken prisoner at Fort Washington, seeking assistance for his exchange
140. May 6, 1778 [262]  
Letter from Andrew Galbraith, American prisoner-of-war on Long Island, happy to learn that Colonel [Robert] Magaw will be paroled to help bring about the exchange of other prisoners
141. May 6, 1778 [262]  
Copy of lists of "*Officers to be sent in by Mr. Boudinot who are already exchanged*", listing 12 British prisoners of war by name, and regiment; plus "*Officers to come in on parole*", listing 5 "*Brittish*" prisoners of war paired with 5 "*Enemy*" prisoners of war; acknowledgment by Boudinot of these exchanges
142. May 6, 1778 [263]  
Letter from Joseph Webb to [Boudinot], seeking to assist in procuring the exchange of his brother, Thomas Webb
143. May 7, 1778 [265]  
Copy of a pass from Boudinot at New York to [?] authorizing the recipient to deliver provisions for certain American prisoners of war, consistent with the agreement between General Washington and General Howe

144. May 8, 1778 [265]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] to Williams with orders to assist "*in getting an Account of the necessities wanted by the british Prisoners*" [in Connecticut]
145. [no date] [266]  
Letter from [British officer prisoners of war] John Hammell, John Brown, Edward Earle, and Jacob Buskirk to Boudinot, seeking to be exchanged, if possible for the American officer prisoners of war whose alleged treatment has caused the writers to be made "*close prisoners*"
146. May 9, 1778 [267]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, restating his concerns about his overly full jail with difficult prisoners; seeking an outlet jail at another location; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
147. May 11, 1778 [269]  
Letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Robert L Groper [?]; expressing pleasure at having just returned from New York after achieving a successful exchange of prisoners; sharing details of the exchange
148. May 11, 1778 [270]  
Letter from John Adam at Fishkill to Boudinot, concerning the delivery of flour for American prisoners in New York; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters; concerning a scheme in Massachusetts to recruit deserters from Burgoyne's army
149. May 20, 1778 [272]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to John Adam, sharing information about various prisoner-of-war matters
150. May 22, 1778 [274]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning the lack of sufficient money; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters; commenting on a report he has heard that Boudinot has resigned his position, hoping that his successor will be a "*worthy man, like yourself*"
151. May 22 1778 [277]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to Joshua Mersereau, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters, with details; sharing reports that the British are leaving Philadelphia
152. May 22, 1778 [279]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to Williams, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters, with details

153. May 23, 1778 [280]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters; seeking a favor for American prisoner-of-war, Captain John Dean in Rawlings' regiment, captured at Fort Washington, and a Hooper relative, plus others for whom he seeks assistance toward exchange
154. May 23, 1778 [283]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, concerning a particular case he calls the "*Webb affair*", apparently the matter of Thomas Webb
155. May 24, 1778 [285]  
Letter from [Captain] Andrew Brown at [New] Brunswick [New Jersey] to Boudinot, concerning following his orders to deliver flour to New York [for prisoners of war], but, having arrived at Staten Island, was refused permission by British General Campbell, and having followed orders to leave immediately, whereupon he had returned with the flour to New Brunswick  
[Note: Besides being a merchant delivering flour, this may be the **Captain Andrew Brown**, from New Jersey, who commanded privateer vessels.]  
[Note: This British General Campbell is **Brigadier General John Campbell** of Strachur (1727-1806—no direct relation to prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell, who, only a few weeks before had been exchanged for Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen). General Campbell commanded the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment and was now commanding in New York. Most recently, his troops had captured and destroyed Fort Montgomery in October 1777. Why he was inconveniently obstructing the provisioning of American prisoners of war at this moment is not clear from the correspondence. By October 1778, he had left this military theater, reassigned to command the British troops in Pensacola, West Florida.]
156. May 25, 1778 [287]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to Pintard, concerning Captain Andrew Brown's attempted delivery of flour to New York; seeking Pintard's assistance in sorting out his "*Flour Acc<sup>b</sup>*"; concerning related matters of transporting and accounting for goods  
[Note: Boudinot's correspondence with his friend and business colleague **Lewis Pintard** begins in this Reel in May 1777, when he appointed Pintard to serve as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for New York City, a position the British refused to recognize. By November 1777, Pintard had been forced to move from his home in New York. Yet he continued to assist in New-York-related prisoner of war activities until at least May 1778, when Boudinot resigned as Commissary General of Prisoners and this line of Pintard correspondence was discontinued. See the note after document 33 for more on Pintard.

In 1781 this correspondence emerges again in this reel with a number of letters by Boudinot to Pintard, dated between October 1781 and April 1782. These letters share information about the war in the southern states, including joy over Cornwallis' defeat at Yorktown, plus other business and personal matters. Since they do not pertain to prisoner-of-war matters, they are not included in this Finding Aid.]

157. May 25, 1778 [287]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to Lieutenant Colonel A. W. White, seeking his assistance to resend Captain Brown's flour to New York, with advice on how to accomplish this  
[Note: This may be **Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Walton White** (1750-1803) of New Jersey, who rose during the war to the rank of Brigadier General.]
158. May 25, 1778 [289]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to Captain Brown, instructing him "*to move the Boat without unloading, in some proper place under the Care of Coll White, and let her remain with her Flag flying till you hear again from me...If you think it will be most advantageous to store the Flour & take the Boat to Middletown you can do it*"
159. May 26, 1778 [289]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, stating that [British] prisoners of war Lieutenant Finch and Ensign Hankey had been "*confined for three months* [in York and thus] *they were not culpable of any breach of their Paroles*"; stating that "*I have never had a regular appointment from you*" and asking that Boudinot provide him with one dated August 26, 1777
160. May 28, 1778 [290]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to Hooper, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters, including the ongoing situation with Thomas Webb
161. June 1, 1778 [292]  
Letter from William Chamberlain at Amwell [New Jersey] to [Boudinot], concerning payments made for provisions for [American] prisoners of war at New York
162. June 3, 1778 [292]  
Draft letter, heavily edited, from Boudinot at Princeton to British Major General Daniel Jones, seeking his assistance in implementing the promise he had made to allow provisions to be sent to American prisoners of war in New York; raising complaints about reports received about British treatment of prisoners of war, including one that "*men of good Character & Fortunes are indiscriminately thrown in to the Sugar House* [a former sugar warehouse turned by the British into a prison] *with the Comon Soldiers*"; suggesting that Americans might have to respond in kind against British prisoners of war

163. June 7, 1778 [294]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, concerning the Webb situation and the Finch and Hankey situation; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
164. June 10, 1778 [296]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Hooper, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton, concerning Colonel [Deter] Kaihlein's situation; concerning moving "*all the Prisoners of war in the Land Service that are with you*" to Philadelphia via White Marsh for purposes of a hoped for general exchange  
[Note: The timing of this effort for a general exchange cannot be coincidental, as the British were on the verge of evacuating Philadelphia (on June 18), whose jail was, at the time, full of American prisoners of war (as were the jails and prison ships at New York). Boudinot's plan to gather as many British and German prisoners of war as possible in the area of Philadelphia must have been designed to entice the British to exchange as many prisoners as possible, given this unique opportunity. Unfortunately, it didn't work out as Boudinot had hoped. (He had already resigned as Commissary General and wanted this exchange to succeed as his final official accomplishment.) See document 177, dated June 25, 1778.]  
[Note: **White Marsh**, now suburban Whitemarsh Township northwest of Philadelphia, was the location the Continental Army chose to rest after losing battles at Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown, leading to British occupation of Philadelphia. In December, indecisive late-season engagements were fought at White Marsh, after which the Continental Army moved farther away from Philadelphia to a long winter encampment at Valley Forge. In June 1778, as this letter indicates, White Marsh was still being used as at least a way station.]
165. June 10, 1778 [296]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Joshua Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Massachusetts, seeking his assistance with certain prisoners of war in preparation for the hoped for general exchange, written "in Haste"; with a lengthy postscript written later, including more details
166. June 10, 1778 [298]  
Copy of draft letter from [Boudinot] to Colonel Laurens, concerning plans for an exchange and related disputes over the treatment of prisoners of war; including a note that conditions for land service prisoners in New York have allegedly improved to the point that "*most of them were in a comfortable Situation*", while "*the Sufferings of the Sea Prisoners were severe inhuman & intolerable*"; concerning American attempts to provide these sea prisoners with clothing and food, which were being thwarted by the British

**[Note: Lieutenant Colonel John Laurens (1754-1782), son of Henry Laurens, wealthy South Carolinian plantation owner and patriot politician and diplomat, was at this time an aide-de-camp on General Washington's staff. His specific involvement in this scheme for a general exchange is not clear from this correspondence, but it does suggest that the scheme was being followed closely by Washington's staff.]**

167. June 10, 1778 [298]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Daniel Hughes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Maryland, instructing him to send all the officer prisoners of war under his care to Camp via Lancaster or York or directly, whichever is easiest
168. June 10, 1778 [299]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, stating that he has returned to camp, seeking to arrange a general exchange, which has been difficult; instructing him to send to Camp about 500 German prisoners of war, including some British prisoners if he has them, or as many prisoners as he can send, the intent being to send as many prisoners as possible into Philadelphia for exchange; concerning individual prisoners of war, including *"a Negroe named Juba on board the Albert Schooner, whose Crew was sent to Lancaster—this fellow belongs to my Bother in Law Mr. Lewis Pintard—If he is with you, I will be obliged to you to hire him out for now, till I see you"*
169. June 10, 1778 [301]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to [probably Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading], instructing him immediately to send to Camp all the land service officer prisoners of war under his care
170. June 13, 1778 [302]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to [Boudinot], sending 11 British prisoners of war, who are all remaining under his care after a number had died and one was *"too ill to moove"*; also sending Lieutenant Finch and Ensign Harkey under the care of Colonel Kaihlein
171. June 13, 1778 [302]  
Letter from John Adam at Peekskill to Boudinot, reporting that *"Ens<sup>n</sup> Adamson is to be sent with M<sup>r</sup>. Sam<sup>l</sup>. Bayard & family"*; concerning obtaining flour for prisoners of war; concerning moving prisoners for possible exchange and related matters
172. June 13, 1778 [304]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Joseph Holmes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia, instructing him immediately to send to Lancaster all officer prisoners of war, as well as privates of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment plus *"those privates of the foreign Troops now in Virginia"*

173. June 13, 1778 [305]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Camp to Ezekiel Williams, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Connecticut, instructing him immediately to send all of the officer prisoners of war under his care into New York
174. June 14, 1778 [306]  
Letter from Hooper at Easton to Boudinot, stating that he has sent British officers and privates to White Marsh under the care of Colonel Kaihlein
175. June 17, 1778 [307]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Germantown to Major General Robertson, warning that his actions concerning prisoners of war have all been taken assuming the full authority of Loring and "*That an attempt to remove our Pris<sup>rs</sup> by sea is undoubtedly a Breach of the agreement made between us. I therefore cannot tell how far his Ex<sup>cy</sup> General Washington will choose to Comply with his part of the Contract made thro' me*"
176. June 20, 1778 [307]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning a number of individual prisoner-of-war situations, prisoner conditions, and possible paroles and prisoner exchanges; defending himself at length against British suggestions that he has used improper corporal punishment on prisoners of war
177. [no date] [312]  
Balance sheet account of Boudinot as Commissary General of Prisoners with the United States of America, including entries with dates from May 5, 1777 through August 21, 1778 totaling, on both sides, £44,693,13.6
178. June 25, 1778 [313]  
Draft of letter from [Boudinot] at New Jersey to [maybe General Washington?], reporting on his recent activities directed toward effecting a general prisoner exchange, about which "*I am greatly distressed to find myself in some measure disappointed*"; explaining with many details; now passing these matters on to his successor [whom he never directly names in this correspondence]
179. [no date] [317]  
Account of Flour Account of Boudinot with entries dated from April 23 through June 26, 1778 and balanced out with a payment of £1,234.4.10 to "*Elias Bowdinot for the Balance*"
182. June 17, 1778 [320]  
Note stating Boudinot's advice on handling parole and exchanges for [British] prisoners of war held in Philadelphia in relation to a proposal by New York Governor George Clinton [not described here]

183. July 14, 1778 [320]  
Letter from John Adam at Westfield [New Jersey] to Boudinot, concerning correspondence between General Gates and General Jones about the exchange of prisoners and disappointment at the failure of the attempt; concerning obtaining barrel staves [appears to be an incomplete letter as microfilmed]
185. [no date] [324]  
Wood Account of Boudinot, with expense entries dated from May 9 through August 20, 1778 totaling £51.6.4½; not at bottom with calculation of cumulative total of £163.11.8
186. August 28, 1778 [325]  
Copy of letter from [Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to [?], forwarding payment of £10,000 in Spanish Dollars and English Guineas "*on my Account, which is designed to pay off those Debs for which I became bound to his Excellency General Robertson & of Several Merchants in New York*" for the purchase of board for prisoner-of-war officers on Long Island from December 10, 1777 (the date he accepted this obligation) to June 23, 1778 (the official date of his resignation for financial purposes)
187. September 2, 1778 [327]  
Copy of letter from [?] at Rutland [Massachusetts, location of a prison camp northwest of Worcester] to [John Beatty] concerning "*a letter from Coll Boudinot informing me of a Complaint against me for sending in Convention officers & taking money for that favour at which I was Surprized*"; defending his actions and his character
188. December 28, 1778 [334]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot concerning prisoner-of-war matters, including his financial account
191. [no date] [335]  
"*State of Prisoners taken by the Enemy from the Expedition to Canada till 1778*", including numbers of prisoners by where they were captured, from "*Canada*" to "*Pennsylvania*", by rank, with a "*Total*" column left blank
192. [no date] [336]  
"*Accounts of Purchases & Sales made by Elias Boudinot CGP for Prisoners in Philadelphia*" in 1778, a balance sheet totaling £7,266.19.3 on both sides



193. [no date] [337]  
“Loss sustained by the Army under the Command of Lt. G. Burgoyne—in Different actions in the Campaign 1777”, “before the Surrender” including numbers of officers and total killed, wounded, and taken prisoner by the date and location of different engagements between June 7 and October 7, 1777; written calculations total 1,826, of whom 577 were prisoners and another 154 were wounded and prisoners
195. February 19, 1779 [339]  
Letter from James Dick at New York to Elias Boudinot concerning prisoner exchanges, stating that “*I do not blame Col<sup>l</sup> Beatty for the detention of More Men, but, I must insist that in our mutual promises to send out prisoners on both sides, no exclusive privilege was asked for or admitted by either of us; therefore has the publick Faith been violated*”  
[Note: **James Dick** was British Commissary of Naval Prisoners at New York from 1778 and 1779. Starting sometime in late 1779 or early 1780, his long-standing (and much reviled—by the Americans) successor was David Sproat.]  
[Note: **John Beatty** replaced Elias Boudinot as Commissary General of Prisoners in May 1778, serving until May 1780. Boudinot resigned from the position officially to focus on his duties as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also because of ill health. His resignation was recognized as impending earlier than May but may have been announced in May. Still, the correspondence documents that he remained involved in prisoner-of-war matters until at least late August 1778. In document 185, dated August 28, 1778, Boudinot declared that his official last day for financial obligations as Commissary General was June 23, 1778. Why a British official in New York was still communicating in February 1779 to Boudinot about a perceived “violation” of the exchange agreement Boudinot had previously negotiated is not clear from this correspondence.]  
[Note: **Major John Beatty** (1749-1826) was a military man from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Captured at Fort Washington on November 16, 1776, he had been exchanged by early 1778. In May 1778, he was appointed to be Commissary General of Prisoners (and was thus promoted to Colonel), a position he held for two years, until May 1780. Following in the footsteps of the capable and popular Elias Boudinot must have been difficult. Boudinot had developed the prisoner-of-war network and system, and the correspondence suggests that Boudinot’s Deputy Commissaries did not respond so positively to Beatty. After the war, Beatty moved to New Jersey and into politics, serving in sequence on the New Jersey Legislative Council, the Continental Congress, the New Jersey General Assembly as Speaker, as U.S. Representative, and as New Jersey Secretary of State.]

196. February 1, 1779 [341]  
 Copy of letter from [Elisha Boudinot] at Elizabeth to [Elias Boudinot], concerning the issue raised by James Dick [document 194] about “*detention of More Men*”, stating that “*I have heard from Col. Beatty, of your humanity in sending out a number of Seamen...to be Exchanged...and I must confess my Sensibility is hurt in not having it in my Power to return the Civility in kind*”; with explanation and further information  
**[Note: Elisha Boudinot (1749-1819)** was the brother of Elias Boudinot, who served as the first Commissary General of Prisoners for the U.S. from 1776 to 1778. Like his brother, Elisha, who settled in Newark, was an early revolutionary leader. He served as secretary of the New Jersey Council of Safety in 1777. In December 1778, the New Jersey Legislature appointed him Commissary of Prisoners for New Jersey. He went on to practice law in Newark, rising to serve as an associate judge of the New Jersey Supreme Court from 1798-1804. Elisha apparently was assigned to perform his duties from Elizabeth, New Jersey, which was the transport hub for prisoner-of-war exchanges between British and German prisoners incarcerated in Pennsylvania and American prisoners incarcerated in New York and Long Island. John Adam, a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners responsible to the U.S. Commissary General of Prisoners also worked out of Elizabeth, but the duties of the two only partially overlapped.]
197. February 19, 1779 [341]  
 Account of “*The United States of America to Elias Boudinot C.G.P. for Contingent Charges in his department*”, with entries dated April 24, 1777 through February 29, 1778; with figures in both dollars and pounds
198. March 15, 1779 [343]  
 Note accounting for delivery of nine barrels, with costs totaling £19.1.27 with a total weight of 179 pounds, “*left in Peter Schencks [?] Store for the flag*”, the instruction “*2 lbs Included mark EB for Coll<sup>l</sup>* [Elias] Boudino<sup>b</sup>”
199. March [1?], 1779 [344]  
 Copy of letter from [Elisha Boudinot] at Elizabeth to [a British official in New York], stating that “*I herewith send you eight private Sailors according to our Agreement—they are all the sailors that were at Princeton*”; stating that he will make inquiries and send more from other places if possible  
**[Note:** In December, Elisha Boudinot had been appointed by the New Jersey Legislature to be Commissary of Prisoners for New Jersey. By this time, his brother Elias Boudinot, had resigned as U.S. Commissary General of Prisoners. See documents 194 and 195 and the notes after document 194. See also the post script in Boudinot’s March 10, 1778 letter to the Board of War in the Elias Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778 (State Historical Society of Wisconsin), document 140.]

200. May 8, 1779 [345]  
Memorial letter from John Force [?] and Henry Stanfield [British prisoners of war] at Princeton to Elisha Boudinot, stating that they had met with Governor [William] Livingston [of New Jersey] concerning "*our grievances*", who was "*moved with Pity for our distress*"; requesting Boudinot's "*indulgence*" to assist them because, although many of their company had "*long been Exchanged*", obstacles had been placed in the way of the exchange of these two
201. May 11, 1779 [346]  
Letter from Richard Puller [British prisoner-of-war] at Princeton to Elisha Boudinot, expressing dismay that his word for his character has apparently not been taken [apparently in relation to exchange], which he feels is dishonorable; comparing his situation with "*the Indulgence you offer to Capt<sup>n</sup> Campbell*"; presenting evidence of his honorableness that "*I hope will Ensure your confidence in me so as to Permit me in W<sup>th</sup> Capt<sup>n</sup> Campbell*"
202. May 18, 1779 [348]  
Copies of two sworn statements by John Brown and Ichabod B. Barret before [Elisha] Boudinot concerning a certain "*Major Hollet*", also described as a "*Mr. Hollet*," a chaplain on a ship, who had been a recruiting officer there, but who later was recruiting on Long island, dressed in a uniform with a scarlet coat [while apparently a case of treason, it is not clear from this correspondence how it relates to prisoner-of-war matters]
203. May 9, 1779 [349]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] J. Hoogland, Adjutant in Regiment LO [?] at Philadelphia to Beatty, concerning his being called up for exchange; referencing previous actions in his situation by [Elias] Boudinot
207. November 6, 1779 [358]  
Letter from C. Trunchard [?] at Philadelphia to [Elisha Boudinot?] concerning exchange of the crew of the privateer sloop *Revenge* "*belonging to the State of Jersey*"; hoping for their exchange "*as soon as possible*"
208. December 4, 1779 [358]  
Letter from Garret Rapalye at Squires Point to Elisha Boudinot, "*Commissary of [State] Prisoners*" [for New Jersey] at Elizabeth, concerning sending cattle [apparently for prisoners of war]; concerning his sending money to support his son, an American prisoner-of-war, and hoping for his exchange  
[Note: **Garret Rapalye** (1730-1786) was a New York merchant of Dutch ancestry. In 1777 he settled at Squire's Point in Sussex County, New Jersey, where he owned and operated the Brookland Forge. He was briefly imprisoned on suspicion of loyalist treason in 1777 and again in 1778. In this letter, he seems to be firmly on the American side of the conflict.]

209. December 6, 1779 [360]  
Letter from Governor [William] Livingston at Mount Holly [New Jersey] to Commissary of State Prisoners Elisha Boudinot, reporting with names an exchange proposed by Loring of five American prisoners of war for five British prisoners, in an “all or nothing” deal; stating that the Governor and Council of New Jersey approve the deal, with details  
[Note: Between October 1779 and April 1782, correspondence is found in these documents between Elisha Boudinot and **Robert Livingston** (1746-1813), who at this time was living on the Livingston family’s Hudson River estate at Red Hook, New York, north of present-day Rhinebeck. He was a distant relative of William Livingston, Governor of New Jersey and Elisha Boudinot’s boss. Trained as an attorney and by choice an avid patriot, he served on the committee that drafted the Declaration of Independence. From 1777 to 1801 he held the top judicial post in his native state as Chancellor of New York. In 1783, he served as U.S. Secretary of Foreign Affairs during negotiation of the Treaty of Paris in Paris. Later on, as U.S. Minister to France, he negotiated the Louisiana Purchase. He and Elisha must have been friends. Therefore, since their correspondence does not concern prisoners of war, it is not included in this Finding Aid.]
211. December 11, 1779 [361]  
Draft of letter from [Elisha Boudinot] at Elizabeth to Beatty at Princeton, concerning the exchange of several prisoners of war [named in document 208]
212. December 11, 1779 [363]  
Draft of letter from [Elisha Boudinot] at Elizabeth to Robert Livingston, concerning difficulties with the exchanges proposed by Loring [those named in document 208]
215. September 23, 1780 [369]  
Copy of letter from [Elisha Boudinot] at Elizabeth to Major General Phillips, concerning old unresolved financial matters from his time as Commissary General of Prisoners, seeking assistance in receiving money he believes he is owed from loss of a boat to the British, for which General Campbell had promised reimbursement [see document 154 and the note after it]  
[Note: This may be British **Major General William Phillips** (1731-1781) of the Royal Artillery. He had been captured at Saratoga in October 1777 and remained a prisoner of the Americans until exchanged in November 1780 for American Major General Benjamin Lincoln, who had surrendered to the British at Charleston in May 1780. Whether Phillips was in New York in September 1780 and in a position to assist Boudinot with unresolved financial matters is not clear from this correspondence. In May 1781, he died of a fever at Petersburg, Virginia, on his way with troops under his command to join General Cornwallis at Yorktown. General Benedict Arnold was assigned command of his troops.]

217. June 6, 1781 [370]  
Copy of letter from [Elias Boudinot] at Basking Ridge to “*Gentlemen*” [probably of the U.S. Treasury], concerning prisoner-of-war financial matters from summer 1778, which he is still seeking to resolve; crediting the Treasury with £25, which he has failed to resolve and is paying himself, and reporting expenses of £900.3 still unresolved

## Provision Returns for British Soldier Prisoners of War

October 27, 1778 to August 8, 1782      Doc. 241 (list of returns)      [Frames 409-448]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society Collection 71 and/or 1676)

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

241.    October 27, 1778 to August 8, 1782      [410]

**Note:** The provision returns microfilmed here are recorded as a single document rather than separate documents. The returns report, by "corps," provisions provided to a certain number of British soldier prisoners of war in each "corps." Each return usually covers a period of 3 or 4 days. This set of provision returns contains a relatively complete sequence of returns that commence on dates from February 3, 1780 to August 8, 1782. Although not all are so identified, these all appear to have been reported from the New Jail at Philadelphia. Among a number of places where the Americans concentrated incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, Philadelphia and Lancaster, Pennsylvania appear to have been the largest and busiest. Philadelphia's New Jail held large numbers of both land and marine prisoners. These provision returns are listed in the left-hand column below.

**Note:** Additional provision returns are scattered through the microfilmed documents of prisoner lists in Reel 5. These fill in some of the gaps in the collected documents of provision returns microfilmed here in Reel 4. While each of these provision returns is listed separately under Reel 5, they are also referenced below, in the right-hand column.

### Reel 4

Provision returns for British soldier prisoners of war, probably all at New Jail, Philadelphia

### Reel 5

Provision returns for British soldier prisoners of war, all at New Jail, Philadelphia

### Date

October 27, 1778

[see also Reel 3 document 1] October 30, 1779

[see also Reel 2 document 7] January 19, 1780

February 3, 1780 at Philadelphia [see also Reel 2 document 8]

February 6, 1780

February 12, 1780 at Philadelphia

[See also Reel 2 document 10] February 18, 1780

March 1, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia

### Document #

19

30

33

|  |                                       |    |
|--|---------------------------------------|----|
| March 7, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                                       |    |
|  | March 24, 1780                        | 36 |
| April 3, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                                       |    |
| April 9, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                                       |    |
| April 15, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                                       |    |
| April 21, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                                       |    |
| [See also Reel 2 document 12]            | April 26, 1780                        | 41 |
|  | May 3, 1780                           | 42 |
| May 15, 1780 at Philadelphia             |                                       |    |
| May 18, 1780 at Philadelphia             |                                       |    |
| May 20, 1780 at Philadelphia             |                                       |    |
| May 24, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                                       |    |
| May 27, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                                       |    |
| May 30, 1780 at Philadelphia             |                                       |    |
|  | June 4, 1780                          | 47 |
| June 19, 1780 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                                       |    |
| June 20, 1780 at New Jail                |                                       |    |
| July 1, 1780 at New Jail                 |                                       |    |
| [overlaps July 2, 1780 return Reel 5]    |                                       |    |
|  | July 2, 1780                          | 52 |
|  | [overlaps July 1, 1780 return Reel 4] |    |
| [see also Reel 2 document 14]            | July 5, 1780                          | 49 |
| July 8, 1780                             |                                       |    |
| July 11, 1780                            |                                       |    |
| July 14, 1780                            |                                       |    |
| [see also Reel 2 document 16]            | July 23, 1780                         | 51 |
| July 26, 1780                            |                                       |    |
| [see also Reel 2 document 17]            | August 1, 1780                        | 50 |
| August 4, 1780                           |                                       |    |
| August 7, 1780                           |                                       |    |
| August 10, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| August 13, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| August 16, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| August 19, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| August 22, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| August 25, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| August 28, 1780                          |                                       |    |
| [see also Reel 2 document 18]            | August 31, 1780                       | 54 |
| September 3, 1780                        |                                       |    |
| September 6, 1780                        |                                       |    |
| September 9, 1780                        |                                       |    |
| September 12, 1780                       |                                       |    |
| September 15, 1780                       |                                       |    |
| [see also Reel 2 document 20]            | September 21, 1780                    | 56 |
| September 24, 1780                       |                                       |    |
| October 9, 1780                          |                                       |    |

|  |                                    |     |
|--|------------------------------------|-----|
| October 12, 1780                             |                                    |     |
| October 18, 1780                             |                                    |     |
| October 24, 1780                             |                                    |     |
|  | October 27, 1780                   | 61  |
| October 30, 1780                             |                                    |     |
| November 2, 1780                             |                                    |     |
| November 8, 1780                             |                                    |     |
|  | November 17, 1780                  | 62  |
| November 20, 1780                            |                                    |     |
| November 26, 1780                            |                                    |     |
|  | November 29, 1780                  | 65  |
| December 5, 1780                             |                                    |     |
| December 8, 1780                             |                                    |     |
| December 11, 1780                            |                                    |     |
|  | December 17, 1780                  | 67  |
|  | [similar return, same date         | 68] |
| December 20, 1780                            |                                    |     |
| December 22, 1780                            |                                    |     |
| December 26, 1780                            |                                    |     |
|  | January 1, 1781                    | 72  |
| January 4, 1781                              |                                    |     |
| January 7, 1781 [see also Reel 2 document 7] |                                    |     |
| January 10, 1781                             |                                    |     |
| January 13, 1781                             |                                    |     |
| January 16, 1781                             |                                    |     |
| January 20, 1781                             |                                    |     |
| January 22, 1781                             |                                    |     |
|  | February 6, 1781                   | 75  |
| February 9, 1781                             |                                    |     |
| February 12, 1781                            |                                    |     |
| February 15, 1781                            |                                    |     |
| February 18, 1781                            |                                    |     |
| February 21, 1781                            |                                    |     |
|  | February 24, 1781                  | 74  |
| March 11 [?], 1781                           |                                    |     |
| [similar return same date Reel 5]            |                                    |     |
| [see also Reel 2 document 27]                | March 11, 1781                     | 76  |
|  | [similar return, same date Reel 4] |     |
| March 14, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                                    |     |
| March 17, 1781 at New Jail                   |                                    |     |
| March 20, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                                    |     |
| March 23, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                                    |     |
| March 26, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                                    |     |
| March 29, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                                    |     |
| March 31, 1781 at New Jail                   |                                    |     |
| April 1, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia      |                                    |     |



|  |                            |     |
|--|----------------------------|-----|
| April 4, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| April 7, 1781 at New Jail  |                            |     |
| April 10, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| April 13, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| April 16, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
|  | April 19, 1781             | 77  |
|  | [similar return, same date | 79] |
| April 22, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| April 25, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| April 28, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| May 1, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| [Break in provision returns between<br>Frames 449-450, where document 3<br>below is microfilmed; returns begin again<br>in Frame 451.] |                            |     |
| May 4, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| May 7, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| May 13, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
|  | May 25, 1781               | 84  |
| May 31, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| June 3, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| June 6, 1781 at New Jail   |                            |     |
| June 9, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| June 12, 1781 at New Jail  |                            |     |
| June 15, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| [see also Reel 2 document 28]  | June 18, 1782              | 83  |
| June 21, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| June 24, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| June 27, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| June 30, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| July 3, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| July 6, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| July 9, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| July 15, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
|  | July 12, 1781              | 86  |
| July 18, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| July 21, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| July 24, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| July 27, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| July 30, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| August 2, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| August 5, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| August 8, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                            |     |
| August 11, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| August 20, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                            |     |
| [see also Reel 2 document 29]  | August 23, 1781            | 98  |

|  |                    |     |
|--|--------------------|-----|
| August 26, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia    |                    |     |
| August 29, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia    |                    |     |
| September 4, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| September 7, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| September 13, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                    |     |
|  | September 16, 1781 | 102 |
| September 19, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                    |     |
| October 31, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
|  | November 5, 1781   | 106 |
| November 9, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| November 12, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| November 15, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| November 21, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| November 30, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| December 3, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| December 9, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| December 12, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| December 20, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
|  | December 24, 1781  | 112 |
| December 27, 1781 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
|  | January 2, 1782    | 116 |
| January 10, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| January 14, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| January 17, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| January 21, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| January 24, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| January 28, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| January 31, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| [see also Reel 2 document 32]                | February 4, 1782   | 125 |
| February 7, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                    |     |
| February 11, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| February 14, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| February 18, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| February 25, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                    |     |
| March 1, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia      |                    |     |
| March 4, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia      |                    |     |
| March 7, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia      |                    |     |
| March 8, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia      |                    |     |
| March 7 and 8 returns overlap]               |                    |     |
| March 11, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                    |     |
| March 14, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                    |     |
|  | March 18, 1782     | 133 |
| March 21, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                    |     |
| March 25, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                    |     |
| March 28, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia     |                    |     |
| April 4, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia      |                    |     |

|  |                |     |
|--|----------------|-----|
| April 8, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  | April 1, 1782  | 138 |
| April 11, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                |     |
| April 15, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                |     |
| April 18, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                |     |
| April 22, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                |     |
| April 25, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                |     |
|  | May 2, 1782    | 144 |
| May 6, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia    |                |     |
| May 7, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia    |                |     |
| [May 6 and 7 returns overlap]            |                |     |
| May 13, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| May 16, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| May 23, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| May 27, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| May 30, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| June 3, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| June 6, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| June 17, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
|  | June 20, 1782  | 152 |
| June 24, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
| June 27, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
| July 8, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia   |                |     |
| July 11, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
| July 15, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
| July 18, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
| July 22, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
| July 25, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia  |                |     |
|  | July 29, 1782  | 160 |
| August 8, 1782 at New Jail, Philadelphia |                |     |
|  | August 5, 1782 | 161 |

### Copy of Articles of a Cartel

May 3, 1781 Document 242 [Frames 449-534]  
 (Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society Collection 71 and/or 1676)

242. May 3, 1781 [449]  
 Duplicate of "*Articles of a Cartel for the exchange and relief of prisoners of War taken in the Southern department agreed to at the house of M<sup>r</sup>. Claudius Pogee on Pedee...between Lieutenant Colonel Carrington on the part of major general Green and Captain Cornwallis on the part of Lieutenant general Earl of Cornwallis*"; copy sent to Thomas Bradford at Philadelphia

[**Note:** In early May 1781, Nathanael Greene's Southern Department Continental Army was methodically reclaiming territory for the United States in the interior of South Carolina. The Pee Dee River flows from the Appalachian Mountain slopes, not far from Guilford, North Carolina, where Greene's Continentals had fought Cornwallis' British troops to a bloody standstill in March, through eastern South Carolina to the sea at Charleston, which remained in British hands.]

[**Note:** In the documents that follow on this Reel, "Bradford" refers to **Colonel Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (Deputy Commissary General** after October 19, 1780) at Philadelphia, unless identified with another first name. See also notes on Bradford's position after Reel 5 document 590 and on his family after Reel 5 document 530.]

## Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War (begin)

January 11, 1777 to September 23, 1778      Documents 243-254      [Frames 535-550]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Pennsylvania Historical Society Collection 71  
and/or 1676)

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers  
(manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a  
complete Reel.

243. January 11, 1778 [536]  
    *"Return of Clothes wanting for Prisoners of Different Regiments in the New Jail"*  
    for 17 named prisoners variously needing coats, waistcoats, breeches, shirts,  
    shoes, stockings, or blankets  
    [**Note:** Among a number of places where the Americans concentrated  
    incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, Philadelphia and  
    Lancaster, Pennsylvania appear to have been the largest and busiest.  
    Philadelphia's New Jail held large numbers of both land and marine prisoners.]
244. February 18, 1777 [536]  
    *"List of British Pris<sup>rs</sup> call<sup>d</sup> the first Battalion of New Jersey taken at Rinnets [?] Neck On Command near Brunswick"*; names of 45 prisoners with note about their clothing needs
245. April 24, 1778 [538]  
    Receipt, written by Thomas Bradford, at *"Camp @ Vally Forge"* for payment to Lieutenant James Bradford, for *"Expences when with a Flagg to Philadelphia"*  
    [**Note:** James Bradford might be related to Thomas, but apparently not closely.]
246. May 28, 1778 [538]  
    *"An acct. of Money, Cloaths &c for the Pris<sup>rs</sup> in Philadelphia to be delivered to H. H[ugh] Ferguson, Deputy of Prisoners"*; with note *"Rece<sup>d</sup>. the above from Mr. Bradford"*
247. July 6, 1778 [539]  
    *"List of the British Prisoners Phila"*; listing 128 named prisoners with their regiments

248. July 12, 1778 [541]  
“*List of Foreign & British prisoners of War forwarded from Philad<sup>a</sup>. for Eliz<sup>h</sup>. town*”,  
with 120 names by Regiment  
[**Note:** Elizabeth Town is today’s Elizabeth, New Jersey. Hereafter, in this Reel,  
the place name Elizabeth refers to Elizabeth, New Jersey.]  
[**Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster,  
**Elizabeth** was one of the most important locations for American incarceration of  
British and German prisoners of war, in New Jersey just across the harbor from  
New York and British military Headquarters. Thus Elizabeth served as a primary  
conduit through which prisoners of war held by the British (in New York and Long  
Island) and those held by the Americans (primarily in Philadelphia, Lancaster,  
Reading, York, Lebanon, and Easton, Pennsylvania plus, Winchester, Virginia,  
and Frederick, Maryland). **Major John Adam** served as Deputy Commissary of  
Prisoners here from 1779 through 1783. **Major (later Colonel) Abraham  
Skinner** (c. 1753-1835), while Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at the moving  
Headquarters of the Continental Army, frequently worked out of Elizabeth. In  
September 1780, he officially succeeded John Beatty as Commissary General of  
Prisoners, after having assumed the responsibilities several months before. Still,  
he frequently worked out of Elizabeth while negotiating exchanges.]
249. July 13, 1778 [544]  
“*List of Hessians, Waldeck & British Prisoners of Warr sent from Lancaster for  
Philadelphia under the Escort of Capt. Mathew Scott*”; with 66 names by  
regiment; signed by William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at  
Lancaster  
[**Note:** **William Augustus Atlee** (1735-1793) was an attorney, born in  
Philadelphia but lived most of his life in Lancaster. As a leading patriot, and  
because **Lancaster**, along with Philadelphia, became an early, major destination  
for British and German prisoners of war, he became involved in managing the  
incarceration of prisoners of war at Lancaster. He served as Deputy  
Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster from 1776-1782. He also chaired  
Lancaster’s Committee of Safety and Committee of Inspection and Observation  
during most of the war years, and served as a judge on the Pennsylvania  
Supreme Court from 1777 to 1791. See the Atlee papers section of the DLAR  
microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts at the Library of Congress),  
which are included in this Finding Aid.]
250. July 29, 1778 [545]  
“*List of forty nine Hessian and Waldeck Prisoners of Warr sent from Lancaster for  
Philadelphia...under the Escort of Lieutenant William Vanleer & Lieut. Stephen  
Stephenson of the 9<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Reg<sup>t</sup>.*”; names listed by regiment; signed by  
Atlee [copy in Reel 9 document 5 in the Prisoner-of-war Lists section of the  
DLAR microfilms of the Peter Force Collection, which are included in this Finding  
Aid]

251. August 10, 1778 [546]  
*"List of British Seamen and Marines at Fort Frederick in Washington County Maryland"* [now Frederick, Maryland, actually in Frederick County]; including names, their vessels, and where taken, for 69 seamen, 12 marine prisoners of war, plus 6 more *"Runaway [or] Dead"*
252. July 16 to August 4, 1778 [548]  
*"Account of Provisions, & other Stores the French Prisoners Receiv<sup>d</sup> at the Gen<sup>l</sup>. Hospital at Philadelphia"*
253. September 23, 1778 [548]  
*"List of British Prisoners, when and where taken, Winchester"* [Virginia]; 111 named prisoners, listed by regiment  
**[Note:** In prisoner lists, "where taken" means where the prisoner was captured. In this case, the prisoners were not taken at Winchester, as the heading of the document suggests; they were incarcerated there.]  
**[Note:** The barracks at **Winchester**, Virginia operated as a prisoner-of-war prison from 1776 through 1782. Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, Winchester was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. In Pennsylvania, these included York, Lebanon, Easton, and Reading. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. **Colonel Joseph Holmes** (1746-1806), a merchant from Winchester, served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia, whose territory included Winchester with its prisoner-of-war barracks, as well as Fredericksburg, when prisoners were kept temporarily there, plus the large prison at Frederick, Maryland.]
254. September 23, 1778 [550]  
*"List of British Prisoners when and where taken Winchester"*; 39 named prisoners, listed by regiment [see note after document 14]

## Reel 5

### Summary Contents:

#### **Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War (end)**

September 27, 1778 to August 5, 1782 Documents 1-162 [Frames 1-262]  
 (Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP) Collection 71 and/or 1676)

#### **Parole Security Statements & Forms for British Prisoners of War Captured at Sea**

April 10, 1778 to July 22, 1782 Documents 163-529 [Frames 263-482]  
 (Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

**Note:** Names of some American prisoners of war are found in documents seeking to arrange exchanges.

**Note:** Parole security statements and forms are microfilmed out of chronological order, as follows:

|                                      |                   |                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| June 3, 1780 through July 22, 1782   | Documents 163-337 | (Frames 263-372) |
| April 10, 1778 through June 13, 1780 | Documents 338-529 | (Frames 373-482) |

**Thomas Bradford Correspondence Concerning British Army Prisoners of War at Philadelphia**

(begin)

|                                  |                   |                  |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| June 17, 1777 to August 23, 1779 | Documents 530-772 | [Frames 484-830] |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

**Reel 5 itemized, annotated contents:**

**Lists of British Army and Navy Prisoners of War (end)**

|                                      |                 |                |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| September 27, 1778 to August 5, 1782 | Documents 1-162 | [Frames 1-262] |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP) Collection 71 and/or 1676)

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. [no date] [1]  
Incomplete list of British prisoners of war, with names by regiment, when taken, and where taken, including 104 prisoners, mostly captured on January 3, 1777 at Princeton
2. September 27, 1778 [3]  
“*A List of the Taylors, detained in Winchester, & others which secrets themselves in the Vicinity of the same place*”, including 19 Highlanders, Germans, and others “*present*” and 20 “*not present*”; signed by Joseph Holmes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Frederick Town [Frederick, Maryland] [and for Virginia] [see the note after Reel 4 document 14]  
[**Note:** Hereafter in this Reel, “Frederick” refers to Frederick Town and Fort Frederick, located in Maryland. Fort Frederick served, during the Revolutionary War, as one in a network of American prisons for British and German prisoners of war. Fredericksburg, Virginia, another location where prisoners of war were kept temporarily, is identified separately.]



[**Note: Colonel Joseph Holmes** (1746-1806), a merchant from Winchester, served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia, whose territory included Winchester with its prisoner-of-war barracks, as well as Fredericksburg, when prisoners were kept temporarily there, plus the large prison at Frederick, Maryland.]

3. October [?], 1778 [4]  
“*List of [naval] Officers & belonging to the Service of Great Britain sent from Philadelphia to New York*”, with name, rank, ship, date taken, and place taken, including 17 “*of Kings Ships*”, 1 “*privateer*”, 8 “*Private Ships*”, 2 “*Passengers*”, 89 “*Seamen*”, and 112 “*Marines*”, plus 258 “*soldiers*”, by regiment with no rank or ship identified  
[**Note:** Philadelphia early became the major American incarceration point for “marine” as well as “land” prisoners of war. As evident from this list, “**marine**” **prisoners of war** included seamen and marines in the British Navy, crew members of both private vessels and privateers, British and German soldiers being transported, and even passengers unlucky enough to be traveling on captured vessels.]
4. October 13, 1778 [8]  
“*A Return of the following [British] Prisoners*” of war, with name, regiment, when taken, and where taken; including 15 prisoners captured at the “*Head of Elk*”  
[**Note:** The **Head of Elk**, now Elkton, Maryland, is located at the head of navigation on the Elk River at the far northeastward extension of Chesapeake Bay, pointing toward Wilmington, Delaware and Philadelphia beyond. This is where General William Howe chose to land his British troops in late July 1777 for his campaign against Philadelphia. After the successive Battles of Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown, Howe’s troops had occupied Philadelphia on September 26, 1777. France’s entry into the war on the American side in spring 1778 altered the geopolitics of the war, leading the British to evacuate Philadelphia on June 18, 1778. The small group of British prisoners of war reported captured at Head of Elk in October 1778 suggests that, while the British had not entirely deserted the area, major military action had moved on to other areas.]
5. [no date] [8]  
“*A [summary] Return of [German] Prisoners received since the Battle of Trenton*” [on December 26, 1776], with numbers of prisoners by regiment and by rank, totaling 918 prisoners; note at bottom “*Taken also about 1200 Stand of Arms twelve Drums, four standards—Six Pieces of Brass Artill<sup>y</sup>—There were also some Prisoners sent over at Trenton not included in the above Return—Several Parties yet out*”
6. [no date] [9]  
List of British prisoners of war with name, regiment, when taken, and where taken, including 17 prisoners; apparently incomplete list of prisoners captured in August and September 1777 at Princeton and Staten Island

7. April 24, 1779 [10]  
“A List of [British] Prisoners delivered from on Board Hero Galley Rich<sup>d</sup> Sighbenne [?] Commander”, with 15 names of prisoners; signed by Colonel Henry Hollingsworth, addressed to the commanding officer “at Head of Elk”  
[Note: By now Head of Elk was an American military outpost. It remained an occasional transfer point for Continental soldiers marching through in one direction or the other, especially in 1781 when the Continental Army moved south on its way to Yorktown]  
[Note: **Henry Hollingsworth** (1737-1803), a native of the Head of Elk area, was a leader in the Maryland militia and active as a supplier for the Continental Army.]
8. May 1779 [11]  
“A Return of the [British] prisoners of War Drawing Provisions in the New Prison Philadelphia”, with 66 names by regiment plus 7 “Negroes”
9. May 16, 1778 [13]  
“A List of Clothing and Cattle for the American Prisoners in Philadelphia”; signed for as purchased by Captain Thomas Cohen “from Deputy Commissary Bradford”  
[Note: Philadelphia was occupied by the British between September 26, 1777 and June 18, 1778. While excluded from Philadelphia, Americans such as Thomas Bradford, who were incarcerating British and German prisoners of war elsewhere in Pennsylvania, sought to aid fellow American prisoners of war held in British Philadelphia.]  
[Note: In the documents that follow on this Reel, “Bradford” refers to **Colonel Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (Deputy Commissary General** after October 19, 1780) at Philadelphia, unless identified with another first name. See also notes on Bradford’s position after Reel 5 document 590 and on his family after Reel 5 document 530.]
10. July 16, 1779 [14]  
Incomplete list of British prisoners of war, with names by regiment, captured at Stony Point on July 16, 1779, with a note on the summary page by Commissary General of Prisoners Colonel John Beatty stating that “*Four officers & Thirty Nine Priv<sup>ts</sup> of the above—Wounded & sent on the 17<sup>th</sup> Jul<sup>y</sup>. to New York*”; pages microfilmed [not in order] include prisoners with sequential numbers 150 through 303 out of a total number of prisoners reported in the summary to be 543 [similar list in document 12]  
[Note: **John Beatty** (1749-1826) replaced Elias Boudinot as Commissary General of Prisoners sometime in May 1778, serving until May 1780. (See the note after Reel 4 document 195 in the Schwalm Collection, Boudinot Papers.) **Elias Boudinot** (1740-1821) had been the first Commissary General of Prisoners, serving from May 1777 until sometime in May 1778, when he resigned, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also for reasons of ill health.]

[**Note:** The **Battle of Stony Point**, New York, was a lightning nighttime Continental Army raid led by General Anthony Wayne on a British outpost defending against American access on the North (Hudson) River 30 miles above New York City. The result was a major Continental victory with heavy British casualties. Officially, 546 British prisoners of war were captured, 74 of them wounded. Of these, over 400 were marched to the prison camp at Easton, Pennsylvania. See document 13.]

[**Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Easton** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Reading. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. **Robert Lettis Hooper Jr.** (c. 1730-1797) of New Jersey served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton from at least November 1777 through May 1780. He was also Deputy Quartermaster General for a region around Easton from 1776 until 1780, when his job was abolished in a reorganization.]

11. July 16, 1779 [17]  
"A List of the [British] Prisoners in Jail taken at Stony Point 16<sup>th</sup> July 1779", with names by regiment, listing a total of 325 prisoners
12. July 16, 1779 [20]  
Incomplete list of British prisoners of war, with names by regiment of those captured at Stony Point on July 16, 1779, including prisoners with sequential numbers 1-49, 56-102, 110-156, 162-206, 214-260, and 268-310 [similar list in document 10]
13. July 20, 1779 [24]  
"List of the Prisoners names taken from the British at Stony Point 17<sup>th</sup> July 1779" with names by regiment, including 416 named men, plus 52 women and 31 children unnamed; identified as names of private soldiers captured, "who march'd thro' Goshen 20<sup>th</sup> July 1779 for Easton", Pennsylvania; included note states that 441 prisoners "rec'd [presumably at Easton] agreeable to this List" [see directly related letter about subsequent movement of these prisoners to Lancaster in the Atlee Papers section of DLAR's microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts in the Library of Congress), Reel 9 document 16; also found as Reel 9 document 7 in the section on Prisoner-of-war Lists; for more on Atlee, see note after Reel 4 document 10 above]  
[**Note:** The route of march suggested makes sense as follows: Overland northwest to Goshen, New York (30 miles from Stony Point) and west and southwest from there to Port Jervis and down the Delaware River to Easton (100 miles).]

14. August 27, 1779 [27]  
“A [summary] *Return of the Prisoners of War, taken at Dowles Hook on y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> instant*”, with numbers of prisoners by regiment and rank, totaling 126 British and German prisoners; signed by Major Thomas Meriwether  
[Note: The **Battle of Paulus Hook**, a British fort in what is now Jersey City, New Jersey, was fought on the night of August 19, 1779. Continental Army troops under Major Light Horse Harry Lee conducted a successful, surprise nighttime raid that cost the British defenders dearly with the loss, officially, of 158 prisoners.]
15. September 26, 1779 [27]  
“A *list*”, written in German, apparently the cover page for the list of prisoners of war that follows in document 16
16. September [26], 1779 [28]  
A numbered list, written in German, apparently of prisoners of war, with names and notes about their capture and status, including 95 prisoners plus 3 Negroes [see copy with date in Reel 2 document 4]
17. [no date] [32]  
Informal list apparently pertaining to prisoners of war
18. September 6, 1779 [33]  
“*List of British Prisoners of War sent on board the Schooner George* [Captain] *John Lundel* [or Lundle] *in exchange for the like number* [56] *rec'd from Bermuda*”, including names of 62 prisoners with ranks for officers; 2 names are crossed out
19. October 30, 1779 [36]  
“*Provision Return for British Prisoners* [of war] *Commencing 30<sup>th</sup> October 1779*”, listed by corps for numbers of men, women, and children separately [see also Reel 3 document 1]  
[Note: A large collection of provision returns is found in Reel 4 document 241. Although not always identified so, it appears that these all report on provisions supplied to British prisoners of war incarcerated at the New Jail in Philadelphia. They cover extensive but incomplete blocks of time between October 27, 1778 and August 8, 1782. Provision returns scattered among prisoner-of-war lists in Reel 5 also report on provisions supplied to British prisoners of war in Philadelphia's New Jail. Most of these fill in date gaps in the collected provision return documents in Reel 4. See the notes for Reel 4, document 241 and the two-column listing there of provision returns in both Reel 4 and Reel 5.]

20. October 11, 1779 [37]  
“*State of the [British] Prisoners of War at Philadelphia*” with numbers by regiment, totaling, for those in prison (644), on parole (23), at work (214), in the hospital (95), totaling 976 prisoners, plus 28 women and children in the prison [see also Reel 3 document 2]
21. October 10, 1779 [39]  
Numbered list, written in German, of prisoners of war at Philadelphia, with names and notes on status for 92 prisoners; with title page following [see also document 27 and Reel 2 document 6] [see also Reel 3 document 3]
22. December 14, 1779 [42]  
Numbered “*List of the Naval Prisoners in the State Prison Philadelphia*”, including names and ranks, vessel name, and “*Discharged Year*”, totaling 153 prisoners [see also Reel 3 document 4]  
**[Note:** Apparently the “State Prison” of Pennsylvania was different from the “New Jail” of Philadelphia. Both were used during the Revolutionary War to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war.]
23. [no date; after December 1779] [45]  
List of 133 naval prisoners of war, with name, ship, where captured, and date captured
24. July 28, 1779 [48]  
“*List of Marine Prisoners of War sent from Philadelphia*”, with name, vessel taken in, where taken, when taken, for 38 prisoners
25. [no date] [49]  
List, written in German, of German prisoners of war in Philadelphia’s New Jail, with names by regiment, totaling 99 prisoners [see copies in Reel 2 document 5 and Reel 3 document 5]
26. [no date] [52]  
“*Amount of [American] Prisoners Belonging to the Difrent Vessels Belonging to Philadelphia now on Board the Jersey Prison Ship*”, with names by ship, including 92 prisoners from 20 vessels [see also Reel 3 document 6]
27. September 26, 1779 [54]  
Numbered list, written in German, of German prisoners of war, with 91 names listed; followed by cover page [see also document 21 and Reel 2 document 6]
28. [no date] [57]  
Lists of names “of [British] Prisoners taken by the [Brig] Holker in the Schooner Fame from New York” (33 prisoners) and “in the sloop Phenix...by the Briggs Holker and Fair American” (9 prisoners)

29. [no date] [58]  
“*List of [British] Prisoners of War belonging to Different Ships in the State Prison Taken by the French Man of War*”, with names and ship belonging to, including 66 prisoners
30. January 19, 1780 [60]  
“*Provision Return for British Prisoners of War commencing 19 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1780*” [see also Reel 2 document 7]
31. [no date] [60]  
“*List of Officers Exchanged and Sent out on Parole*”, including 10 pairs of names of those exchanged plus one name with no exchange name
32. February 2, 1780 [61]  
“*A List of 5 Boys, late belonging to the Ship Lady Washington Samuel Young Commander of and from Philadelphia—captured and made Prisoners of War*” by the British and sent to Philadelphia and exchanged at Young’s special request; with names of the five boys; signed at New York by [Loyalist] David Sproat, British Commissary of Naval Prisoners; addressed to Bradford at Philadelphia [Note: David Sproat had become Commissary of Naval Prisoners very shortly before the date on this list. He held the position until sometime near the end of the war.]
33. February 3, 1780 [63]  
“*State of the [British] Prisoners of War in Philadelphia*”, listed by corps with numbers of prisoners deserted, in prison, at work, sick in the hospital, and total numbers; with a total of 666 prisoners, excluding 22 deserters [see also Reel 2 document 8 and compare with Reel 5 document 121]; followed by  
March 5, 1780  
“*State of the Prisoners of war, Philadelphia*”, listed by corps with numbers of prisoners in prison, at work, sick in the hospital, and total numbers; with a total of 664 prisoners [see also Reel 2 document 9]; followed by  
February 18, 1780  
“*Provision Return for the Prisoners of War In the New Gaol of Philadelphia*” [see also Reel 2 document 10]
34. September 28, 1780 [66]  
“*A List of the Prisoners of War in Monmouth Goal to be Sent to Philadelphia by order of the Govener and Council of the State of New Jersey*”, listed by name in categories of “seamen” (8), *Burgoin Men* (6), and “Refugees” (6)
35. March 24, 1780 [67]  
“*List of the Soldiers Prisoners of War in Philadelphia New Gaol*”, listed by corps and name, including a total of 215 prisoners

36. March 19, 1780 [70]  
*"Provision return for the Prisoners of War Soldiers in Philadelphia New Goal"*
37. March 24, 1780 [71]  
*"Account of the Soldiers (Prisoners of War) out at Work"*, listed by name with their corps, *"when went out," "to whom at Work,"* and *"Trades"*, including 23 prisoners, plus 4 crossed out, three of whom are identified as *"deserted"*; continued at [72] with 37 additional prisoners plus 6 crossed out
38. March 28, 1780 [71]  
*"List of Prisoners of War absent on Security &c from the S[tate] P[rison]"*, listed by name with their corps and with remarks for some; including 46 prisoners, 16 of whose names are crossed out; continued at [72] with 42 additional prisoners, 12 of whose names are crossed out
39. March 27 [1780] [73]  
*"State of the Prisoners of War in Philadelphia"*, listed by corps with numbers of prisoners sent to Frederick, in prison, at work, sick in the hospital, dead, deserted, discharged, and total numbers; with a total of 658 prisoners, excluding those dead and deserted
40. [no date] [74]  
*"Return of Sundry Naval prisoners of War sent from or Rec<sup>d</sup> at Philad<sup>a</sup> from Nov 17 [1779] to April 30 1780"*, including names of British and American prisoners in 30 pairs as exchanged plus 62 British prisoners listed but not names, with no pairing with American prisoners
41. April 26, 1780 [76]  
*"Return for Provisions for Soldiers Prisoners of War in Philadelphia New Goal"*  
[see also Reel 2 document 12]
42. May 3, 1780 [76]  
*"Provision Return for the Prisoners of War Soldiers in Philadelphia New Goal"*
43. April 8, 1780 [76]  
*"List of the Naval Prisoners of War sent from Philadelphia to Elizabeth Town"*, listed by name, rank, and belonging to what vessel, including 59 prisoners  
[Note: Elizabeth Town is today's Elizabeth, New Jersey. Hereafter, in this Reel, the place name Elizabeth refers to Elizabeth, New Jersey.]

[**Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Elizabeth** was one of the most important locations for American incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, in New Jersey just across the harbor from New York and British military headquarters. Thus Elizabeth served as a primary conduit through which prisoners of war held by the British (in New York and Long Island) and those held by the Americans (primarily in Philadelphia, Lancaster, Reading, York, Lebanon, and Easton, Pennsylvania plus, Winchester, Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland). **Major John Adam** served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners here from 1779 through 1783. **Major (later Colonel) Abraham Skinner** (c. 1753-1835), while Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at the moving Headquarters of the Continental Army, frequently worked out of Elizabeth. In September 1780, he officially succeeded John Beatty as Commissary General of Prisoners, after having assumed the responsibilities several months before. Still, he frequently worked out of Elizabeth while negotiating exchanges.]

44. May 10, 1780 [78]  
*"List of the Names of the Naval Prisoners of war in y<sup>e</sup> States Prison Philadelphia"*, listed by name, rank, and vessel for 116 prisoners
45. May 18, 1780 [81]  
*"A List of [American] Men Captured in the Schooner Sally by the Otter Sloop of War which M<sup>r</sup>. Bradford is requested to have exchanged as soon as it possibly can be Effected"*, listing names of 12 captured individuals; signed by Joseph Ball; with note at the bottom *"Lieut. John Fields of the Brigantine Gen<sup>l</sup> Wayne is also prisoner on board the prison Ship at new york who is requested to be included in the above exchange"*, initialed by "JB"
46. June 17, 1780 [81]  
*"List of [British] Prisoners sent from Morris Town to Phi<sup>a</sup>"*, with names and regiments; continued at [82] and again at [83], including a total of 40 prisoners; signed by Commissary General of Prisoners, Major Abraham Skinner; with a note attached ordering the *"Officer Commanding the Guard"* to move these prisoners, also signed by Skinner  
**[Note:** See note after document 43 concerning **Abraham Skinner**. He officially succeeded Colonel John Beatty as Commissary General of Prisoners, after a brief hiatus, on September 15, 1780 and served until August 1782, as the war and the prisoner-of-war business were winding down. Thus, Skinner was not yet officially the commissary general on the date of this letter. Beatty's official correspondence with Bradford found here ends in May 1780. Skinner soon assumed the duties of the office, although an interim Commissary General served briefly before Skinner was appointed.]
47. June 4, 1780 [82]  
*"Provision Return for the [British] Pris<sup>rs</sup> of War Soldiers in the New Goal Philadelphia"*



48. June 19, 1780 [85]  
*"The Present State of the [British] Prisoners of War belonging to the Diff<sup>t</sup> Regiments"*, including, for each regiment, the numbers of prisoners taken, sent to Fort Frederick, dead, deserted from hospital, in Philadelphia jail, taken at Trenton, let out to work, on parole, and total, for a total of 269 prisoners
49. July 5, 1780 [86]  
*"Return for Provision for the [British] Pris<sup>rs</sup> of War Soldiers in the N[ew] Gaol Philadelphia"* [see also Reel 2 document 14]
50. August 1, 1780 [87]  
*"Provision Return for the Soldiers British prisoners of war"* [see also Reel 2 document 17]
51. July 23, 1780 [87]  
*"Provision Return for the Soldiers British Prisoners of War"* [see also Reel 2 document 16]
52. July 2, 1780 [87]  
*"Provision Return of the British Prisoners of War, Soldiers in New Goal"*
53. August 5, 1780 [89]  
*"A list of [American] womens names with their Children and Servents who are permitted to go in the flagatruse Brig Bellona to Philadelphia"*, listing 9 women by name plus 22 children and 5 servants, not named; signed at Charleston, South Carolina by British official G. Benson, M. B.  
**[Note:** The British campaign to capture control of Charleston, South Carolina culminated in a crippling siege of the city in April and May 1780. American General Benjamin Lincoln surrendered his entire force on May 12, including these women, children, and servants (slaves?), who must have been connected to combatant prisoners of war rather than being local citizens. They were allowed to be paroled to Philadelphia.]
54. August 31, 1780 [91]  
*"Provision Return for Soldiers British Prisoners of War"* [see also Reel 2 document 18]
55. August 14, 1780 [91]  
*"A List of the Naval Prisoners of War in the State Prison Philadelphia"*, listing name, rank, and vessel for 97 prisoners plus 8 "*Nigros*", of which 10 prisoner names are crossed out; followed by 3 additional names and a note "*25 Aug<sup>t</sup> 97 Exchanged*" [see also Reel 2 document 19]
56. September 21, 1780 [94]  
*"Provision Return for Soldiers British Prisoners of War"* [see also Reel 2 document 20]

57. September 16, 1780 [95]  
List of American privateer prisoners taken by the British ship Boreas, to be sent on parole, on the flag of truce Two Friends, to Philadelphia and that an equal number of British prisoners were to be sent in exchange to New York, on the same flag of truce; listing names of 70 American prisoners, by their ships, the Aurora and the Charming Sally; with a separate list of 9 additional American prisoners, by name and rank, also to be exchanged for an equal number of British prisoners [compare to document 59]
58. September 16, 1780 [?] [96]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of war that are sick in the Bettering House Philadelphia"*, listing numbers by category of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, and total; total number of prisoners stated to be 62 [see also Reel 2 document 21]
59. September 16, 1780 [97]  
List of American privateer prisoners taken by the British ship Greyhound, to be sent on parole, on the flag of truce Two Friends, to Philadelphia and that an equal number of British prisoners were to be sent in exchange to New York, on the same flag of truce; listing names of 60 American prisoners, by their ships, the Aurora and the Charming Sally [compare to document 57] [see Reel 2 document 22]
60. October 4, 1780 [98]  
*"List of Naval Prisoners of War sent aboard the Flag Brig from Philadelphia for New York"*, listed by name, rank, and vessel taken in, for 60 prisoners, with note below acknowledging receipt of 60 prisoners at New York, signed by Edward Browne, midshipman of HMS Boreas
61. October 27, 1780 [100]  
*"Provision Return for Soldiers British Prisoners of War"*
62. November 17, 1780 [102]  
*"Provision Return for Soldiers British Prisoners of War"*
63. November 19, 1780 [104]  
*"A List Milletary Prisoners of War for Exchange"*, by name for 125 prisoners
64. November 1780 [107]  
*"List of Naval Prisoners of War sent for Exchang"*, by name, rank, and vessel, for 103 prisoners
65. November 29, 1780 [110]  
*"Provision Return for the British Prisoners of War"*

66. [no date] [110]  
List of German prisoners under the command of Captain [?] Wilhelm of the Lancaster Militia, by name and regiment, for 88 prisoners
67. December 17, 1780 [111]  
"Provision Return for British Prisoners of War" [similar to document 68]
68. December 17, 1780 [112]  
"Provision Return for the British Prisoners of War" [similar to document 67]
69. December 1780 [114]  
List of prisoners being sent by Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Colonel Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, Pennsylvania, to Bradford at Philadelphia, by name, rank, regiment, when taken, and where taken, with remarks, for 36 prisoners  
**[Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Reading** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Easton. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. A German immigrant (originally Heinrich), **Colonel Henry Haller** (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 through sometime in 1782.]
70. December 21, 1780 [115]  
List of prisoners of war at Philadelphia by name and regiment, for 171 prisoners
71. December 11, 1780 [117]  
Bound return of German prisoners of war in the New Jail at Philadelphia, with a table of contents by regiment for the 56 numbered pages of the return, followed by lists by regiment including name, date arrived to the jail, when taken, and where taken, and status, including "*Bailed out of the Goal*," in the hospital, discharged from the hospital, runaway, and died, for 193 prisoners
72. January 1, 1781 [148]  
"Provision Return for British Prisoners of War" [microfilmed twice]
73. [no date] [151]  
List of British prisoners taken at the Battle of Cowpens on January 17, 1781, received by Joseph Holmes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia, with name, rank, and regiment, for 177 prisoners
74. February 24, 1781 [154]  
"Provision Return of the British Prisoners"

75. February 6, 1781 [154]  
*"Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in New Goal Philadelphia"*
76. March 11, 1781 [155]  
*"Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia"* [see also Reel 2 document 27]
77. April 19, 1781 [155]  
*"Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia"*
78. March 31, 1781 [157]  
*"Return of British Prisoners that Died"* during March 1781 with names, when died, and their regiment for 12 prisoners
79. April 19, 1781 [158]  
*"Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia"*  
 [microfilmed identical copy of document 77]
80. March 1781 [160]  
*"A List of Seamen [British prisoners of war] in Philadelphia New Goal, their Stations Ships Names & time of Capture—taken March 1781"*; including names of 35 prisoners
81. April 1781 [162]  
*"Return of the Number of Prisoners of War deceas<sup>d</sup> In the New Goal Philadelphia"* during April, with names, corps, and when deceased for 20 prisoners
82. May 5, 1781 [164]  
*"List of Naval Prisoners sent in the Flag of Truce Sloop Pacific Robert Lenox Master to Philadelphia"*, list addressed to Bradford; with names, rank, and vessels taken for 90 prisoners; signed by David Sproat, British Commissary of Naval Prisoners at New York, with a note by him stating that *"those mark<sup>d</sup> X [35 of the prisoners] are to be landed at Elizabeth Town by their own request"*
83. June 18, 1781 [167]  
*"Provision Return of the prisoners of war in the New Goal Philadelphia"* [see also Reel 2 document 28]
84. May 25, 1781 [168]  
*"Provision Return of the Prisoners of War Soldiers in the New Goal Philadelphia"*

85. July 5, 1781 [170]  
Proclamation by John Maxwell, Governor of the British Colony of the Bahama Islands, at New Providence, stating that he is sending American prisoners of war on the flag of truce sloop "*Good-Interest*", captain John Tucker, to Philadelphia for exchange, attaching a list of prisoners, with names, stations, vessel in which captured and notes for 35 prisoners [see document 96]
86. July 12, 1781 [173]  
"*Provision Return of the prisoners of war in the New Goal Philadelphia*", including a note on the envelope of "*Deceased Since Last—*" with three names, two of them identified by regiment
87. July 16, 1781 [175]  
"*List of Negro Servants belonging to the foregoing Gentlemen also shipped on board the Cartel Brig.<sup>t</sup> Nancy William Watson master, for Philadelphia*", with first names of 25 "*servants*", including 5 females and 3 children; signed at St. Augustine, East Florida by William Brown, Commissary of Prisoners of War; including on a separate page what apparently is the incomplete list of "*gentlemen*", with four names numbered from 28 to 31 [a page with names numbered from 1 to 27 is not microfilmed here]
88. July 16, 1781 [176]  
"*Names of the Americans Prisoner-of-war Exchanged, and embarked on Board the Schooner East Florida, Charles Dames Master, being a Flag of Truce for Philadelphia*", with names and military unit, for 30 prisoners, signed at St. Augustine by William Brown; followed by List of first names of 25 "*negro Servants*" belonging to the prisoners shipped, including 1 child
89. July 23, 1781 [178]  
"*Return of the [British and German] Prisoners of war Sick in the Bettering House with their Orderly's*" in Philadelphia, with names, ranks, corps, and remarks, for 106 prisoners
90. July 27, 1781 [181]  
"*Return of the Brittish prisoners of war that are Sick in the Bettering House, Philadelphia*" with numbers of prisoners in categories of orderlies sergeant in charge of the sick, British soldiers, seamen, Germans, orderly men, and nurses, for a total of 115 prisoners and others
91. August 5, 1781 [181]  
"*Return of the Prisoners of war that are Sick in the Bettering House, Philadelphia*" with numbers of prisoners in categories of orderly sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderlies, nurses, and sick women for a total of 98 prisoners and others

92. August 6, 1781 [182]  
Letter from Lieutenant Charles Prince, British Commissary of Naval Prisoners at Charleston, to Bradford, listing American and British prisoners of war, exchanged in pairs, to be brought to Philadelphia in the brig Fanny, flag of truce, Robert Shephard master, including 10 named pairs of prisoners, the British being former naval prisoners "*but are now regularly Exchanged*" and the Americans being "*understood as the Crew of the said Fanny Flagg for the purpose of Navigating her to Philadelphia*"
93. August 7, 1781 [183]  
Letter from Prince at Charleston to Bradford, listing the names of 3 British prisoners of war who had declined to be exchanged and of the three different British prisoners of war who had been substituted for exchange
94. August 12, 1781 [185]  
Return of [American] prisoners on the sloop Moriarty, Edward Tilly master, heading for Philadelphia, listing 33 prisoners by name and station; signed by Pendock Neale, Commissary of Prisoners at St. Georges, Bermuda [microfilmed twice in succession, the second time more clearly and including all of the text]
95. August 15, 1781 [187]  
Proclamation by John Maxwell, Governor of the British Bahama Islands, at Nassau, stating that he is sending American prisoners of war on the flag of truce brig Cicily, captain Thomas Neckes, to Philadelphia for exchange, attaching a list, dated August 16, 1781, of prisoners, with names, stations, and vessel in which captured for 45 prisoners [list microfilmed twice] [see document 99]
96. August 20, 1781 [190]  
"*List of British prisoners, sent from Philadelphia to New Providence [Bahamas] in Exchange for American prisoners receiv<sup>d</sup> from thence, by sloop Good Interest Cap<sup>t</sup> J<sup>n</sup> Tucker*", with names, rank, and ship's name for 34 prisoners [see document 85]
97. August 21, 1781 [192]  
"*A return of the Soldiers Prisoners of War in the New Goall of Philadelphia*", listing numbers of prisoners by corps for a total of 499 prisoners
98. August 23, 1781 [193]  
"*Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in the new Gaoll of Philadelphia*" [see also Reel 2 document 29]
99. September 17, 1781 [194]  
"*List of [British] Naval prisoners Sent by the Flag Brig, Cicily, Cap<sup>t</sup> Nix [Neckes] to the Island of providence [Bahamas]*", with names, rank, and vessel for 8 prisoners [see document 95]

100. September 20, 1781 [195]  
*"A List of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, including names of 40 prisoners, identified as either British or German prisoners
101. August 25, 1781 [196]  
*"Return of [British] naval prisoners of War, sent from Philadelphia in the Brig Burton, Cap<sup>t</sup> Arnot, to New York"*, with name, rank, and vessel's name for 191 prisoners
102. September 16, 1781 [199]  
*"Provision Return for the Soldiers Prisoners of War in the New Goal of Philadelphia"*
103. September 1781 [200]  
*"List of [British and American] Officers proposed for exchange"* with 16 pairs of names and ranks
104. October 21, 1781 [200]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of war that are Sick In the Gen<sup>l</sup> Hospital at the Bettering House Philadelphia"*, with numbers by category of sergeants, British, Germans, orderlies, nurses, and sick women, with a total of 37 prisoners and others
105. October 28, 1781 [200]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of war that are Sick in the Gen<sup>l</sup> Hospital at the Bettering House, Philadelphia"*, with numbers by category of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, deceased, and entered, for a total of 39 prisoners and others
106. November 5, 1781 [201]  
*"Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in the New Gaol of Philad<sup>a</sup>"*
107. November 19, 1781 [202]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of war that are Sick in the Bettering Hous Philadelphia"*, with numbers by category of sergeants, British, German, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, dead, and discharged, for a total remaining of 38 prisoners and others
108. November 11, 1781 [202]  
*"A Return for the Brittish Prisoners of war that are Sick in the Bettering Hous Philadelphia"*, with numbers by category of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, dead, and discharged, for a total remaining of 42 prisoners and others

109. November 13, 1781 [204]  
Deposition to Justice of the Peace Samuel Kenard of Gloucester County, New Jersey, by Richard Goodwin, William Gibbins, Francis Farrall and Samuel Oats, who testify that they had deserted from the British Army and were "*bound for New York*"; note on reverse states that the four men were "*Committed to the Care of Jacob Roberts*"
110. [no date] [206]  
Return of prisoners of war received between November 13, 1781 and July 11, 1782 and of prisoners discharged between November 1, 1781 and July 9, 1782; listed by name or, in one case, as a group of unnamed German prisoners, with their disposition by date; includes prisoners Goodwin, Gibbins, Farrall, and Oats as received on November 13, 1781 [microfilmed twice to get all text] [see document 109]
111. December 2, 1781 [208]  
"*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in Bettering House at Philadelphia*", with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, "*admitted*" [admitted], dead, and discharged with a net total of 37 prisoners
112. December 24, 1781 [208]  
"*Provision Return of the Prisoners of War in the New Goall of Philadelphia*"
113. [no date] [209]  
List of British naval prisoners with names, rank, and vessel, including 79 names
114. December 28, 1781 [211]  
"*List of [American] Prisoners of War Sent [from Nassau, Bahamas] to Philadelphia for to be exchanged in the Cartel Brigg The Glochester Francis Knox Master*", with names, "*Quality*", and vessel in which captured for 60 prisoners
115. December 29, 1781 [213]  
"*List of [American] Prisoners of War, Sent [from Nassau] to Philadelphia for to be Exchanged in the Cartel Brigg The Glochester Francis Knox Master*", with names, quality, and vessel, for 70 prisoners
116. January 2, 1782 [213]  
"*Provision Return of the prisoners of war in the New Goall Philadelphia*"
117. January 6, 1782 [214]  
"*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia*", with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, run away, died, admitted, and discharged, for a total of 41 prisoners remaining



118. January 20, 1782 [214]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (41), runaways, died, admitted, and discharged, including one died and one runaway listed by name
119. January 27, 1782 [214]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (37), runaways, died, admitted, and discharged, including one discharged and one runaway listed by name
120. January 13, 1782 [214]  
“*A List of [American] Prisoners sent in the Flag of Truce the Commodore Laforey to Philadelphia*”, including 194 prisoners; signed by Henry de Ponthien at Antigua
121. February 3, 1780 [216]  
“*State of the Prisoners of war in Philadelphia*”, with numbers by corps for those in prison, at work, sick in hospital, deserted, and total, for 687 prisoners [microfilmed out of chronological order] [compare with Reel 2 document 8 and Reel 5 document 33]
122. February 3, 1782 [216]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (38), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 3 dismissed and 2 discharged listed by name
123. February 6, 1782 [217]  
“*General Return of the German Prisoners of War that Draw provision in the New Goal & Bettering House at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of German regiments and other military units, for a total of 122 prisoners
124. February 5, 1782 [218]  
“*A List of the German Prisoners of War and their different Corps, in the New Goal & Bettering House at Philadelphia*”, with names for 122 prisoners
125. February 4, 1782 [219]  
“*Provision Return of the Soldiers Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia*” [see also Reel 2 document 32]

126. February 10, 1782 [219]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (40), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 2 admitted listed by name
  
127. February 17, 1782 [219]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (39), admitted, died, and discharged, including 1 admitted and then discharged and 1 runaway listed by name
  
128. February 24, 1782 [219]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (44), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 5 admitted listed by name
  
129. February 16, 1782 [221]  
*"List of [American] Prisoners of Flag Elizabeth Joseph Smith [?] Master for Philadelphia"*, with names and "*station*" for 74 prisoners, signed at St. Georges, Bermuda by Pendock Neale, [Commissary] of Prisoners
  
130. February 5, 1782 [223]  
*"A Return of the British Soldiers Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia"*, with names and corps for a total of 354 prisoners
  
131. March 2, 1782 [228]  
*"List of British Prisoners of Warr sent from Lancaster to Philadelphia...under the escort of Capt Fleming of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt of Artillery"*, with name, regiment, when taken, and where taken for 206 prisoners; signed at Lancaster by William Atlee [torn and poorly readable copy in the Prisoner-of-war Lists section of the DLAR microfilms in the Peter Force Collection, Reel 11 document 23] [see note after Reel 4, document 10 for more on Atlee as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster and on Lancaster as a major center of prisoner-of-war incarceration]
  
132. March 17, 1782 [231]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (53), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 13 dismissed, 2 discharged, and 1 dead listed by name

133. March 18, 1782 [233]  
*"Provision Return of the Soldiers Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia"*
134. March 10, 1782 [234]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (45), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 7 admitted listed by name
135. March 3, 1782 [234]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (45), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 3 admitted and 9 discharged listed by name
136. March 24, 1782 [234]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (62), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 16 admitted, 2 discharged, 3 died, and 1 runaway listed by name
137. March 30, 1782 [235]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering House at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (71), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 15 admitted and 8 discharged listed by name
138. April 1, 1782 [235]  
*"Provision Return of the Soldiers & Seamen Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia"*
139. April 28, 1782 [237]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (100), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 9 admitted, 2 dead, and 4 discharged listed by name
140. April 7, 1782 [237]  
*"A Return of the British Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (60), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 15 admitted, 1 dead, 2 runaways, and 23 discharged listed by name

141. April 14, 1782 [237]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (93), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 36 admitted, 2 dead, and 1 discharged listed by name
142. April 24, 1782 [238]  
“*Return of Naval Prisoners of War sent to Elizabeth Town for Exchange from Philad<sup>a</sup>*”, with name, rank, ship taken on, and date taken for 79 prisoners
143. April 1782 [240]  
“*Return of Officers Prisoners of War on Parole in the City of Philad<sup>a</sup> & neighbourhood therof for their subsistence*”, with name, rank, corps, and April subsistence costs for 49 prisoners, for a total value of \$668.15
144. May 2, 1782 [241]  
“*Provision Return of the Soldiers & Seamen Prisoners of War in the New Goal Philadelphia*”
145. May 5, 1782 [243]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (64), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 4 admitted, 3 runaways, and 15 discharged listed by name
146. May 26, 1782 [244]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (72), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 10 admitted and 3 discharged listed by name
147. May 19, 1782 [244]  
“*A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Gen<sup>l</sup> Hospital at the Bettering house*”, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (65), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 5 admitted, 1 died, and 10 discharged listed by name

148. May 12, 1782 [244]  
"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia", with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (71), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 11 admitted, 1 runaway, and 3 discharged listed by name
149. June 9, 1782 [246]  
"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia", with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (63), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 8 admitted and 14 discharged listed by name
150. June 2, 1782 [246]  
"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia", with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (69), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 10 admitted, 4 runaways, and 9 discharged listed by name
151. June 16, 1782 [246]  
"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Bettering house at Philadelphia", with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (60), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 1 admitted, 1 death, and 3 discharged listed by name
152. June 20, 1782 [248]  
"Provision Return for the Soldiers & Sailors Prisoners of War in Philadelphia New Gaol"
153. July 1, 1782 [249]  
"Return of Millitary Prisoners of War recd in & discharged from the New Goal at Philad<sup>a</sup> between the 1<sup>st</sup> of Oct 1781 & July 1 1782", with numbers of prisoners in jail on the first date (485) and the number on the last date (908) and details of the changing status of prisoner numbers in between
154. July 1, 1782 [250]  
"Return of Prisoners of War in New Goal or Hospital in Philadelphia...& of those who have broke Goal or ran from Hospital" between January 3 and July 1, 1782; including 857 soldiers and 45 seamen in jail and 51 and 1 respectively in the hospital for a total of 954 prisoners, of whom 18 had broken out of jail and 24 had run from the hospital [microfilmed twice]

155. July 7, 1782 [251]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Gen<sup>l</sup> Hospital at Philadelphia"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (56), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 5 admitted and 5 discharged listed by name
156. July 8, 1782 [252]  
*"Return of the Number of the different Corps & by whom Returned prisoners of War in the Philadelphia New Gaol"*, with numbers of prisoners of war by corps and *"by whom Returned"* for a total of 1,978 prisoners [microfilmed twice]
157. July 26, 1782 [255]  
*"A Return of the Brittish Prisoners of War that are Sick in the Gen<sup>l</sup> Hospital at the Bettering House"*, with numbers of prisoners in categories of sergeants, British, Germans, seamen, orderly men, nurses, sick women, total for these categories (56), admitted, dead, and discharged, including 7 admitted and 1 discharged listed by name
158. July 12, 1782 [256]  
*"A Return of the Prisoners that have made their Escape from the Prison Hospital, and on Permission"* from January 1 to July 1, 1782, with names, regiments, and date of escape by category (British, Germans, seamen) for 42 escaped prisoners
159. July 16, 1782 [258]  
*"List of [American] Prisoners [on] Schooner Polly Joseph Sourles Master for Philadelphia"* with name, *"station"*, *"vessel taken in"*, and *"by what vessel taken"* for 20 prisoners; signed at St. Georges, Bermuda by Samuel [?] Gilbert, acting Commissary of Prisoners
160. July 29, 1782 [259]  
*"Provision Return for the Soldiers & Seamen Prisoners of War in Philadelphia new Goal"*
161. August 5, 1782 [259]  
*"Provision Return for the Soldiers & Seamen Prisoners of War in Philadelphia new Goal"*
162. [?] 1782 [261]  
*"A List of the Seamen belonging to the Ship General Munk"*, including 61 names; followed by  
 Draft calculations for numbers of prisoners, apparently in Philadelphia's New Jail, from October 1, 1781 to October 1, 1782 [see document 153]

## Parole Security Statements & Forms for British Prisoners of War Captured at Sea

April 10, 1778 to July 22, 1782                      Documents 163-529                      [Frames 263-482]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

**Note:** Names of some American prisoners of war are found in documents seeking to arrange exchanges.

**Note:** Parole security statements and forms are microfilmed out of chronological order, as follows:

|                                      |                   |                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| June 3, 1780 through July 22, 1782   | Documents 163-337 | (Frames 263-372) |
| April 10, 1778 through June 13, 1780 | Documents 338-529 | (Frames 373-482) |

**Note:** Most of these American parole documents, completed on behalf of British prisoners of war captured at sea on British naval, privateer, or commercial vessels, pertain to prisoners of war situated in or traveling through Philadelphia. Many are printed forms that were filled out by hand, but some are handwritten, witnessed letters. Each document provides limited, specified freedom and mobility to a prisoner, who pledges to do nothing to harm the United States or to aid its enemies.

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

163. June 4, 1780 [263]  
Parole form for James Downie, late master of the Arbuthnot, to go to the house of Mrs. Tibbs [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
164. June 3, 1780 [263]  
Parole form for Joseph McMeaken, late master of the Needham, to go from Philadelphia to New York to be exchanged for a prisoner of equal rank
165. June 13, 1780 [264]  
Parole letter of Richard Reading, late captain of the armed sloop Revenge, to go from Egg Harbor to Philadelphia  
[**Note:** Great and Little Egg Harbors consist of the convoluted estuaries north and south of what today is Atlantic City, New Jersey. These estuaries provided, during the Revolutionary War, hidden, protected waterways from which privateer and other American ships could deploy quickly to maraud against British shipping. As a result, British prisoners of war captured at sea were collected and incarcerated here, at the fork of the two harbors.]

166. June 13, 1780 [264]  
Parole letter of Ferdinand Reading, late from the sloop Revenge, to go from Egg Harbor to Philadelphia
167. June 17, 1780 [266]  
Parole letter of "*the bearer*", a prisoner-of-war, to travel from Philadelphia to New York pursuant to his exchange; postscript by the signer, Captain Joseph Hughes Burton, states that "*It is my Pertickuler desire that the b[earer] James Schlinger Shal Be Exchanged for George Scott*"
168. June 23, 1780 [267]  
Parole letter of John Cheese late from the schooner Betsy to go from Egg Harbor to Philadelphia
169. June 30, 1780 [267]  
Parole form for Thomas Middleton, Captain of the cutter Miraculous Pitcher, to go to a house [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
170. July 21, 1780 [268]  
Parole letter of Vaniah Squire, late of an armed boat, Captain Davis Aldridge, to go to Philadelphia
171. July 4, 1780 [269]  
Parole form for Alexander Taylor, late master of the brig Sally, to go the house of Mrs. Ritchie in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
172. July 9, 1780 [269]  
Parole form for Jacob Jarvis of Antigua, late a passenger on the Nymph, to go from Philadelphia to Antigua [British colony] via Sint Eustatius [Dutch colony] to seek exchange for Mordicai Sheftal [?] or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
173. July 24 1780 [270]  
Parole form for George Scott, late Lieutenant of the [?], to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for "*myself & others*" or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
174. July 28, 1780 [270]  
Parole form for Alexander Tweed, late passenger on the Sarah, to go to the house of Mrs. Logan in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
175. July 28, 1780 [271]  
Parole form for John Champney, late passenger on the sloop Sarah, to go to the house of Mrs. Logan in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged



176. August 10, 1780 [271]  
Parole form for Thomas Compton, master of the brig Gloucester, to go to a house [?] [in Philadelphia] and remain there until exchanged
177. August 10, 1780 [272]  
Parole form for William Stokes, late passenger on the Gloucester, to go to the house of Mrs. West in Philadelphia, and to remain there until exchanged
178. August 14, 1780 [272]  
Parole form for Archibald Lundin, late passenger on the packet Mercury, to go to a house [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
179. August 14, 1780 [273]  
Parole form for Joseph Dillon, Captain of the packet Mercury, to go to a house [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
180. August 14, 1780 [273]  
Parole form for William Harrison, late passenger on [?], to go to a house [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
181. August 16, 1780 [274]  
Parole form for Robert Shepard, late passenger on the Flora, to go to the house of Mrs. Snowden in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
182. August 14, 1780 [274]  
Parole form for John Harris, Lieutenant of the packet Mercury, to go to a house [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
183. August 19, 1780 [275]  
Parole form for Edward Stiles, late master of the sloop Sarah, to go the house of Mrs. Coppers in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
184. [no date] [275]  
Blank printed parole form for use in Philadelphia in the 1780s
185. August 24, 1780 [276]  
Parole letter of Joseph Dillon commander of the Mercury, Archibald Lundin passenger, James Caldwell surgeon of the Mercury, John Harris First Lieutenant, and Dennis O. Parcen, to go from Philadelphia to New York to arrange for exchange of Dillon for Captain Whipple, of Harris for a lieutenant of equal rank, of Caldwell for Dr. Cook, and of Lieutenant Nathaniel Floyd for Lieutenant De Eveille, taken at Charleston

[**Note:** Among these high-ranking naval prisoners of war, the most conspicuous on the American side is **Captain Abraham Whipple** of Rhode Island (1738-1819). Whipple was a leader among the Rhode Island patriots who burned the British revenue sloop *Gaspee* in 1772. In 1775, he became an early commander in the nascent U.S. Navy. After several conspicuous and lucrative naval victories, his duties led him to join the defense of Charleston, South Carolina in early 1780. After stripping his ships of cannon for land use against the British blockade and siege, Whipple was captured when Charleston surrendered in May 1780. At some point, not documented here, he was paroled to Chester, Pennsylvania.]

186. September 9, 1780 [277]  
Letter written at Philadelphia by Connolly Coan, lieutenant in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, requesting implementation of release granted by the United States Congress, to return to his native Ireland [microfilmed twice]
  
187. September 3, 1780 [279]  
Parole form for Andrew Brown, late passenger on the ship *Lady Margaret*, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for an American prisoner of equal rank or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
  
188. September 10, 1780 [279]  
Parole form for George Aitkin, late passenger on the ship *Lady Margaret*, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for James Seagrove or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
  
189. September 10, 1780 [280]  
Parole form for Lieutenant Abraham Hayward, Andrew Snodgrass, William Callander, John Currie, and William Campbell, "*Subjects of Great Britain captured at Sea*", to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek their exchange "*for prisoners of equal rank*" or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
  
190. September 20, 1780 [282]  
Parole letter written at Egg Harbor, for John McLean, late private on the schooner *Flying Fish*, "*prize belonging to Brig Delight out of New York Jacob Stock Commanding*", to go to Princeton and report to Commissary General of Prisoners John Beatty or to Mr. [?] Combs, Commissary of Prisoners
  
191. September 20, 1780 [284]  
Parole letter written at Egg Harbor, for Andrew Wilson, late prize master of the schooner *Flying Fish*, to go to Princeton and report to Commissary General of Prisoners John Beatty or to Mr. [?] Combs, Commissary of Prisoners

192. September 20, 1780 [285]  
Parole letter written at Egg Harbor, for John Lilly, late mate of the schooner Flying Fish, to go to Princeton and report to Commissary General of Prisoners John Beatty or to Mr. [?] Combs, Commissary of Prisoners
193. September 23, 1780 [286]  
Parole form for William McNeil, late passenger on the sloop Dispatch, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for Benjamin Mifflin Jr., taken in the brig Hatty, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
194. September 23, 1780 [287]  
Parole form for James McNiel, passenger on the sloop Dispatch, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for Monsieur Laroche, taken in the brig Hatty, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
195. September 23, 1780 [287]  
Parole form for John Aitkin, surgeon of the Lady Margaret, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
196. October 1, 1780 [288]  
Parole form for James Phillips, late commander of the sloop Dispatch, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, to seek exchange for Moses Griffin, late commander of the brig Fame, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
197. October 1, 1780 [288]  
Parole form for John Hearn [or Heming?], late mate of the Hope, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, to seek exchange for Monsieur Formon, a prisoner on Long Island, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
198. October 5, 1780 [289]  
Parole letter written at Egg Harbor for Thomas Ross, late private on the schooner Surprise, a prize of the privateer schooner Restoration out of New York, to go to Philadelphia and to report to Bradford there
199. October 5, 1780 [289]  
Parole letter written at Egg Harbor for Thomas Anderson, late prize master of the schooner Surprise, a prize of the privateer schooner Restoration out of New York, to go to Philadelphia and to report to Bradford there
200. October 5, 1780 [291]  
Parole letter written at Egg Harbor for John Duncan, late private on the schooner Surprise, a prize of the privateer schooner Restoration out of New York, to go to Philadelphia and to report to Bradford there

201. October 14, 1780 [293]  
Parole form for Robert Gill, late master of the ship Charming Molly, to go to Nathaniel Allen, in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
202. October 14, 1780 [293]  
Parole form for David Taylor, late master of the ship Elizabeth, to go to a house [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
203. October 22, 1780 [294]  
Parole form for Thomas Lyon, late passenger on the Nancy, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
204. October 22, 1780 [294]  
Parole form for Thomas Hadley, late passenger on the Nancy, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek exchange for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
205. October 15, 1780 [295]  
Parole form for Joseph Penhale, late mate of the brig Little William, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and wait there until exchanged for John Taylor, late mate of the brig Fame
206. October 21, 1780 [295]  
Parole form for James Savage, late passenger on the ship Elizabeth, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Ashmead, late prisoner in Jamaica "*now here* [Philadelphia] *on parole*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
207. October 22, 1780 [296]  
Parole form for John Lang, late master of the Little William, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for Captain Day of the ship Revenge, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
208. October 22, 1780 [296]  
Parole form for James Field, late master of the schooner Barrington, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for Captain Paul Cox of the ship Commerce, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
209. October 22, 1780 [297]  
Parole form for Allan McKinley, late commander of the Sarah, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for Captain Curven of the ship Sinclair or for Captain Samuel Young

210. October 22, 1780 [297]  
Parole form for James Williams, late Captain of the brig Recovery, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for Captain Stover of the brig Hector, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
211. October 22, 1780 [298]  
Parole form for Francis Hardwick, late steward of the Molly, to go from Philadelphia to New York to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
212. October 22, 1780 [298]  
Parole form for Henry Walbery, late mate of the Elizabeth [crossed out] of London, to go from Philadelphia to New York seeking to be exchanged for Lieutenant Wilkinson of the Marbors [?], or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
213. October 28, 1780 [299]  
Parole form for William Greenly, late master of the [?], to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, to seek to be exchanged for a master's mate of the Saratoga, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
214. October 27, 1780 [299]  
Parole form for John Asson, late master of the schooner Ann, to go to the house of Mrs. Labateaux in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
215. October 28, 1780 [300]  
Parole form for Joseph Dibbs, late passenger on the [?], to go from Philadelphia to New York seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
216. October 28, 1780 [300]  
Parole form for Archibald Campbell, late mate of the ship Elizabeth, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Joseph Gamble, late 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate of the ship General St. Clair, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
217. October 28, 1780 [301]  
Parole form for Harry Jackson, late passenger on the Elizabeth, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
218. October 28, 1780 [301]  
Parole form for William Thackstone, midshipman, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a midshipman of the Saratoga, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

219. November [?], 1780 [302]  
Parole letter from George Parker Captain of the ship Susannah, seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank along with his two boys, and seeking exchanges for others as follows: David Miller and John Hamilton passengers on the Restoration for passengers of equal rank, James O'Neal Chief Mate of the ship Susannah for John Kitts of Marbors [?], and Mate Henry Tanner for Joseph Colly, all paroled to go to [?], seeking to be exchanged as hoped, and, if failing, promising to return to Philadelphia as prisoners
220. October 28, 1780 [304]  
Parole form for William Fortray, late mate of the ship Elizabeth, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Brown of the sloop Comet of Philadelphia, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
221. November 2, 1780 [304]  
Parole form for Robert Bean, late passenger on the brig Richard, to go to the house of Francis Gurney and to remain there until exchanged
222. November 8, 1780 [305]  
Parole form for Fletcher Williams, late mate of the packet Mercury, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for William Marriner, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
223. November 7, 1780 [305]  
Parole form for George Jameson, late commander of the ship Richmond, to go to the house of Thomas Steward in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
224. November 17, 1780 [306]  
Parole form for Nathaniel Lawrence, late of the Charming Molly, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for George May, late of the ship Revenge, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
225. November 13, 1780 [306]  
Parole form for John Hunter, late master of the brig Ajax, to go to the house of John Langford in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
226. November 17, 1780 [307]  
Parole form for Robert Gill, late master of the ship Charming Molly, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for Lieutenant Barney of the Saratoga "*or send him out on parole till exchanged*"
227. November 17, 1780 [307]  
Parole form for David Taylor, late master of the Elizabeth, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Samuel Young "*now here & also engage to send out a Black to Elizabeth town before my negro goes in*"

228. November 18, 1780 [308]  
Parole form for John Asson master of the schooner Ann, James Wignell master of the Rodney from Liverpool, James Robison master of the brig Richard, William Bibbins Master of the brig Rodney from Plymouth, George Jamison master of the ship Richmond, Thomas Sarratt mate of the brig Rodney, John McCrea "*Scheaf*" of the Richard, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for "*seamen of equal rank now prisoners of war in N. York to be sent out to Elizabeth Town*"
229. November 19, 1780 [309]  
Parole form for John Champney, passenger in the sloop [?], to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Edward Burrow, late a passenger on the ship St. Clair, and now a prisoner in New York
230. November 20, 1780 [309]  
Parole letter of Robert Baine, taken at sea, to go to Richmond, Virginia and, if not liberated by Virginia's government, to return to Philadelphia still a prisoner
231. November 25, 1780 [310]  
Parole form for Ninan Lindsay, late passenger on the Richmond, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Edward Burrow, passenger in the St. Clair, "*but if Burrow is exchanged then to send out a person of equal rank*"
232. November 25, 1780 [310]  
Parole form for John Hunter, late master of the brig Ajax, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain [?] Sachet, now on parole, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
233. November 25, 1780 [311]  
Parole form for William Tapley, late mate of the brig Rodney, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Lieutenant Wilkinson, Robert Mullers, John Eldridge of the Comet, or Matthew Strong, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
234. November 25, 1780 [311]  
Parole form for George Smith, late mate of the Rover, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Henmare [?] Stout, late Captain of Marines now in Philadelphia on parole, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
235. November 25, 1780 [312]  
Parole form for Thomas Anderson, late midshipman, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for David Latham, midshipman of the Dream now in Philadelphia on parole, "*John Burjeau of the Greyhound for whom Latham was sent out not being here*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

236. December 8, 1780 [312]  
Parole form for John Matthews, late master of the ship Sarah, to go to the house of Captain Edward York [in Philadelphia] and remain there until exchanged
237. February 13, 1781 [313]  
Parole form for James Laughton, late of the privateer ship Resolution, to go to the house of Mrs. Ellis [in Philadelphia] and remain there until exchanged
238. February 3, 1781 [314]  
Parole form for Captain John Forsyth and Thomas Man, captured at sea, to go from Philadelphia to New York, Forsyth seeking to be exchanged for Captain Phineas Eldridge of the Fair American, and Man, of the schooner Hope, for Captain Christie of the sloop [?], or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
239. February 3, 1781 [314]  
Parole form for George Halliburton, late master of the schooner Success, captured at sea, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Jeremiah Peasid [?] of the brig Impromptu or for Captain Smith of the schooner Delaware or for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
240. February 23, 1781 [315]  
Parole form for James Murphy, master of the sloop Hawk, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Phineas Eldridge of the brig Fair American, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
241. February 10 [?], 1781 [316]  
Parole form for Richard Pindar, Lieutenant of the ship Resolution, to go to the house of Captain John Cunningham [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
242. February 26, 1781 [317]  
Parole form for John Ferguson, late mate of the brig Chance, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Elias Taylor, late mate of the ship Commerce, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
243. February 26, 1781 [317]  
Parole form for Archibald Campbell, late mate of the brig Fanny, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Robert Mullen, late officer of marines in the Marbris, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
244. February 26, 1781 [318]  
Parole form for Thomas Lott, late mate of the brig Chance, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Joseph Colly, late mate of the brig [?], or to return to Philadelphia if not successful



245. February 26, 1781 [318]  
Parole form for Richard Welch, captain of the Peace and Plenty, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain James Parby of the Virginia, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
246. March 24, 1781 [319]  
Parole form for James Nichols, steward of the Resolution, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Johnson, steward of the Revenge, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
247. March 24, 1781 [319]  
Parole form for Peter Comberbach, late master of the brig William from Liverpool, to go to the house of Captain Robert Harris in Philadelphia and to remain there until exchanged
248. April 2, 1781 [320]  
Parole form for Benjamin Marston, late captain of the schooner Ranger, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain William Tanner "*sent out on Parole*" , or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
249. February 24, 1781 [320]  
Parole form for Andrew Watson, late master of the schooner Princess Royal, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Thomas Craig, late master of the Dandy, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
250. April 2, 1781 [321]  
Parole form for Thomas Ray, late boatswain of the ship resolution, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Joseph Quality, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
251. April 2, 1781 [321]  
Parole form for William H. Herbert, late a passenger on the brig Amelia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Lardner Clark, late of the brig Fanny, now [in Philadelphia] on parole, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
252. April 2, 1781 [322]  
Parole form for John Williamson, late master of the brig St. Bees, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain John McEver of the schooner Mercury of [Philadelphia], or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

253. April 2, 1781 [322]  
Parole form for William Mathie, late a passenger on the brig Amelia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Edward Burrow, "*now on prison ship but if Burrow is exchanged then some other person of like rank to be sent out*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
254. April 10 [?], 1781 [323]  
Parole letter by crew members of the schooner Ledge, captured by the ship Minerva, John Earle master, seeking permission to depart from Philadelphia to New Providence, [Bahamas], signed by Captain John Hughes, Chief Mate John Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate John Matthews, Ordnance Storekeeper at St. Augustine Thomas William Burly Hall, Militia Captain William McLeod, Gunner Thomas Ackers, Arms Carrier [?] Robert Harrison, Steward James Shirwin, Carpenter William Skild [?]
255. April 18, 1781 [323]  
Parole statement of Richard Russell, late master of the schooner Surprise, promising to act properly as a prisoner-of-war while on parole
256. April 22, 1781 [324]  
Parole form for Alexander Wylie, late master of the Chance, "*For my Self and by Alexander McGowen*", to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Watson, "*sent out from New York*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
257. April 22, 1781 [324]  
Parole form for John Norman, late master of the Hope, "*for my Self & boy Thomas Day*", to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for Captain William Allen, "*sent out of New York on Parole*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
258. April 22, 1781 [325]  
Parole form for James Buchanan, late passenger on the Amelia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Doctor Eckard, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
259. April 22, 1781 [325]  
Parole form for Alexander Ferry, late passenger on the Amelia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Doctor Martin, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
260. April 30, 1781 [326]  
Parole form for Robert Lindsay, late master of the Amelia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Taylor, late commander of the brig Fame, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

261. April 24, 1781 [326]  
Parole form for Peter Comberbach, master of the brig William of Liverpool, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Phineas Eldridge, late master of the brig Fair American, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
262. April 30, 1781 [327]  
Parole form for Daniel Dawes, late purser of H.M.S. Vigilant, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank "*belonging to a continental Ship of War*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
263. April 30, 1781 [327]  
Parole form for Lieutenant Robert Keen, late of the ship of war Vigilant, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Simon Gross, late of the ship of war Confederacy, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
264. April 30, 1781 [328]  
Parole form for Benjamin Brereton, late master of the brig Crowlane, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Hugh Stocker, late master of the brig General Reed, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
265. May 6, 1781 [328]  
Parole form for Conrad Jones, late 2<sup>nd</sup> mate of the brig Crowlane, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Joseph Jones, 3<sup>rd</sup> mate, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
266. May 6, 1781 [329]  
Parole form for John Ebert, late Lieutenant of the schooner Restoration, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
267. May 6, 1781 [329]  
Parole form for Daniel Brooks, late master of the Cock, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Marriner, late master of the Boat [?], or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
268. May 9, 1781 [330]  
Parole form for Timothy Steward, late master of the brig Allday, of Cork, to go to the house of Mrs. Barnes, in Philadelphia, and to remain there until exchanged
269. May 6, 1781 [330]  
Parole form for Robert Nicholls, late mate of the Minerva, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Godfrey or James Swain, mates "*now on board prison ship*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

270. May 9, 1781 [331]  
Parole form for John Chambers, mariner, late lieutenant of the privateer Lord Cornwallis, prisoner in Maryland, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Slemaker, late 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant of the merchantman Buckskin, owned in Maryland; promising to return as a prisoner-of-war to Annapolis if unable to accomplish the exchange
271. May 9, 1781 [332]  
Parole form for George Clark, late master of the ship Triumph, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
272. May 9, 1781 [332]  
Parole form for Patrick Dougan, prize master of the ship Revenge, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Ralph Moore, late prize master of the ship Revenge, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
273. May 15, 1781 [333]  
Parole form for John Blaire, late mate of the Crowlane, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for George Eldridge, "*sent out on Parole*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
274. May 20, 1781 [333]  
Parole form of Edward Fisher, late lieutenant of the General Arnold, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Stilt, late mate of the schooner Molly, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
275. May 20, 1781 [334]  
Parole letter of Lieutenant Charles McLean, late of the brig rattlesnake, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Lieutenant Thomas Burgess of the brig Fame; promising to return to Philadelphia a prisoner-of-war if not successful in the exchange
276. May 17, 1781 [335]  
Parole pass to go from Philadelphia to New York for James Prescott, late surgeon's mate on the Vigilant, seeking to be exchanged for Henry Land, late surgeon's mate of Confer, sent to Philadelphia on parole, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
277. May 20, 1781 [335]  
Parole form for John W. Scott, Lieutenant, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Lieutenant Stillwell of the Morning Star, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

278. May 20, 1781 [336]  
Parole form for Thomas Ross, prize master, to go from Philadelphia to New York to be exchanged for William Martin, prize master belonging to the ship Revenge, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
279. May 20, 1781 [336]  
Parole form for John Morehead, late captain of marines on the Revenge, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Abraham Hargis, late captain of marines on the ship Morning Star, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
280. May 26, 1781 [337]  
Parole form for Captain James Downie of schooner Recovery, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Samuel Wisham, Jonathan Dibblee surgeon, and William Rowland [?], to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoners of equal ranks, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
281. May 26, 1781 [337]  
Parole form for Johnson Bradshaw, late a passenger on the brig Friendship, to go to Mrs. Stewart's [house] in Philadelphia, and to remain there until exchanged
282. May 26, 1781 [338]  
Parole form for John Cowley, late a passenger on the brig Friendship, to go to Mrs. Steward's [house] in Philadelphia, and to remain there until exchanged
283. May 29, 1781 [338]  
Parole form for Walter Stephen, master's mate of the sloop of war Media, to go to the house of Woolman Sutton, [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
284. May 30, 1781 [339]  
Parole form for James Holiday, late master of the schooner Liberty, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Loxleay, sent to Philadelphia "*on parole from Newfoundland by Daniel Edwards*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
285. May 30, 1781 [339]  
Parole form for John Chambers, lieutenant in the British Navy, captured on the ship Resolution, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for [?] Gregory, Lieutenant in the Continental ship of war Confederacy, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
286. June 9, 1781 [340]  
Parole form for Jeremiah Bassett, late master of the sloop Cornwallis of Bermuda, for himself and his boy, to go the house of William Rush [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged

287. June 9, 1781 [340]  
Parole form for James Cristy, captain of marines, to go to the house of Mrs. Stewart [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
288. June 12, 1781 [341]  
Parole form for master of the sloop Cornwallis Jeremiah Bassett and his boy Samuel Allen, Master's Mate of the Media Walter Stevens, and Midshipman Joseph West, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for "*such persons as are inserted against our names on the Back of this parole*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
289. June 9, 1781 [341]  
Parole form for Cornelius Buchanan, late a passenger on the brig Brockday [?] from Cork, to go to the house of Mrs. Barnes [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
290. June 21, 1781 [342]  
Parole form for John Myers, captain and commander of the government sloop Willingshed [?], to go to the [house[ of Christian Derrick [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
291. June 21, 1781 [342]  
Parole form for William Peacock, late master of the sloop Polly, to go to the house of [?], [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
292. June 30, 1781 [343]  
Parole form for Henry Rutledge, late a passenger on the schooner Porcupine, to go to the house of Edmund Connor [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
293. June 30, 1781 [343]  
Parole form for George Johnston, late a passenger on the schooner Porcupine, to go to the house of Edmund Connor [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
294. June 30, 1781 [344]  
Parole letter from seamen Robert Miller, John McCollum, Adam Trimble, James McKensey, and Edward Dalbeck, who were captured on the brig Minerva, seeking to be exchanged for an equal number of seamen
295. July 1, 1781 [345]  
Parole form for William Black, late master of the schooner Dolphin, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged

296. July 3, 1781 [345]  
Parole form for Thomas James Butler, late a passenger on the sloop Dolphin, to go to the house of Elizabeth Burgess [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
297. July 5, 1781 [346]  
Parole form for John Howland, captain of the schooner Mayflower, to go to the house of Mrs. Bergen [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
298. July 7, 1781 [346]  
Parole form for Jerry [?] Stewart, captain of the brig Allday, "*being permitted to Sick Quarters*", to go to Mrs. B[?]'s [house] [in Philadelphia]
299. July 9, 1781 [347]  
Parole form for late passengers Henry Rutledge on the Porcupine and Johnson Bradshaw and John Cowley on the Friendship, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for persons of equal passenger status, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
300. July 28, 1781 [348]  
Parole letter from John Purtell of the York, captured by the sloop Hope on the Fish Banks, and now on the Friendship, agreeing to remain there, hoping for exchange
301. July 10, 1781 [349]  
Parole form from passengers on the sloop Jane [?] Parker and Hugh Peneston, master of the sloop Jane Nathaniel Foritt, John Cowin, Thomas Cooper, Charles Vesey, Nathaniel Dickerson Martin of the flag Controller [?], and Thomas Morgan, to go from Philadelphia to Charleston, South Carolina, to seek to be exchanged for "*persons of equal rank belonging to the State of Pennsylvania*"
302. July 25, 1781 [350]  
Parole letter of John Cannon of New York "*province*," captured while on the sloop Fly by the armed row galley Friendship, Captain Henry Murfits, and the armed whale boat Revenge, captain Aron Swain, and agreeing to remain at or near George Brown's [house] [location not clear]
303. July 25, 1781 [350]  
Parole letter of Mathias de Hart of New York province, captured while on the Fly by the Friendship and Revenge, and agreeing to remain at or near George Brown's [house] [location not clear] [see document 302]

304. July 29, 1781 [351]  
Parole form for Captain William Peacock, Mate William Peacock, and passenger Andrew Telesimons [?], to go from Philadelphia to Charleston, seeking to be exchanged for "*persons of equal to be sent to Philad<sup>a</sup> from thence*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
305. [July 28, 1781] [352]  
Parole letter of William Dillon of New York province, captured while on the sloop Hope, agreeing to remain where he is until exchanged [location not clear]
306. July 28, 1781 [352]  
Parole letter of Jonathan Bowne of New York province, captured while on the sloop Hope, and agreeing to remain where he is until exchanged [location not clear]
307. August 22, 1781 [354]  
Parole form for John Myers Porst "willing Maid", Captain Mark Hobkirk of Pilgrim, Commander Christopher Swain of schooner Porcupine [?], William Black master of Dessertion [?], John Howland master of schooner St. Cloud, Captain James Butcher of the Barrington, and [?] Ball [??] Boy, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoners of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
308. August 26, 1781 [355]  
Parole form for Cornelius Buchanan [?], Captain James Christie [?], Master's Mate Alexander Benthorn, Mate Thomas Murton [?], Mate Thomas James [?] Buttes of the Porcupine, passenger William Hane, and Mate [?] Henderson of the Dimsdale to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoners of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
309. September 10, 1781 [356]  
Parole form for Peter Lawrence, prize master of the privateer Luckey, and, seeking to be exchanged for John Osman, prize master of the Royal Louis, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
310. September 10, 1781 [356]  
Parole form for Daniel Martin, 1<sup>st</sup> mate on the Barrington, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for [?] Slade, late mate of the ship Rising Sun, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
311. September 10, 1781 [357]  
Parole form for George Calder, 2<sup>nd</sup> mate of the ship Barrington, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Jacob Foulk, 2<sup>nd</sup> mate of the Rising Sun, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful



312. September 10, 1781 [357]  
Parole form of Thomas Newbold, master of the schooner Dolly, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Stephens or Captain Kelly, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
313. September 13, 1781 [358]  
Parole form for William Kelly, master of the Neptune, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain John Hunn, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
314. September 10, 1781 [358]  
Parole form for William Neilson, captain of the schooner Fame, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain John McNachtan of the Revolution, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
315. September 13, 1781 [359]  
Parole form for John Scallan, captain of the brig Dutchess of Leinster, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Peter Roberts of the ship Hope, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
316. September 14, 1781 [359]  
Parole form for Blagdon Abbott, master of the sloop Phoenix, for himself and his boy, to go to the hospital and to remain there until exchanged
317. September 17, 1781 [360]  
Parole form for Commander William A. Perry of the whale boat [?], Lieutenant Robert Graham, [?], 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Arthur Gage [?], Mate Robert Etherington, [?], and 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant William Lewis [?], to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking that Perry to be exchanged for Captain Francis DeCloss, , or to return to Philadelphia if not successful , or to return to Philadelphia if not successful and that the others be exchanged for American prisoners of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
318. September 19, 1781 [360]  
Parole form for Israel Tully, late master of the [?] for himself and his boy Elisha Thomas, seeking to go from Philadelphia to Bermuda to be exchanged for American prisoners of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
319. September 20, 1781 [361]  
Parole form for Surgeon John Brussellie of the Dimsdale, Surgeon John Cobb of the Arbuthnot, Mate John Day of the Dimsdale, Master Michael Doran of the Fame, passenger Richard Dickins, passenger James Borland, passenger Benjamin Hanson, Captain of marines [?] Dennis McCarthy of the schooner Active, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged as listed on the reverse side of the form

320. September 21, 1781 [362]  
Parole form for Joseph Smith, purser of the sloop of war Savage, to go to Lancaster and to William Atlee, deputy commissary of prisoners there
321. September 21, 1781 [362]  
Parole form for Daniel Shields, lieutenant of the sloop of war Savage, to go Lancaster and to Atlee, deputy commissary of prisoners there
322. September 21, 1781 [363]  
Parole form for George Delaney, commander of the armed brig Active, to go to Lancaster and to Atlee, deputy commissary of prisoners there
323. September 23, 1781 [363]  
Parole form for Blagdon Abbott, master of the sloop Phoenix, to go to [?], seeking to be exchanged for Captain John Kelly, now in Philadelphia or for Daniel Murphy of Delaware, captured in a shallop, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
324. September 23, 1781 [364]  
Parole form for 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant John Librell of the Fame, Lieutenant Adam Watson, 1<sup>st</sup> Mate John Warner, John Librell's boy Francis Caron, and Mate John Hayes of the Dimsdale; followed by  
September 27, 1781  
Additional names, including Mate Thomas Young, James Nichols, and Mate Daniel Campbell of the Phoenix;  
all to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoners of equal rank
325. November 7, 1781 [365]  
Parole form for Master Robert Thing of the brig Active, Master John Kinkins of the Lacryphe [?], Master William Reynolds of the Savage, Clerk W. Panston [?] of the Savage, and Jonathan Smith, midshipman, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Samuel Claypool, John Manley, David Moffat, Samuel Ediston and "*others of equal rank sent out on Parole*"
326. November 7, 1781 [366]  
Parole form for Charles Grant, master of the brig York, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Davidson of the brig Fayette, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
327. November 15, 1781 [366]  
Parole form for Owen Neal, master of the ship Major Pearson, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Stephen Decatur "*sent out on parole*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

[Note: **Stephen Decatur Sr.** (1751-1808) was born in Rhode Island, was a merchant captain before the Revolution and became a commodore in the nascent U.S. Navy during the Revolutionary War. During this conflict, he commanded a number of vessels, including the Royal Louis, the Comet, the Retaliation, the Rising Sun, and the Fair American. His son, **Stephen Decatur Jr.** (1779-1820) was introduced early to the sea by his father. Stephen Jr. went on to play a major role in developing the U.S. Navy in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century.]

328. November 19, 1781 [367]  
Parole form for Lieutenants Joseph Child and David Sloan and Surgeon William Taylor all of the General Arnold, Mate John Ferguson of the brig York, and Mate John Withall of the Major Pearson, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Lieutenant Wilkinson "*and others of equal rank who have been longest captured*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
329. November 16, 1781 [368]  
Parole form for Midshipman Michael Ogelvie of the Pearl, Prize Master John Ebert of the General Arnold, and Lieutenant Edward Collord [?] of the schooner Ranger, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Bowen Johnson, master's mate of the Louis [or] Lieutenant Gross Gibs Jones, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
330. November 22, 1781 [369]  
Parole form for Daniel Tingley, master of the Lord North, to go to the house of John Stille [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
331. November 24, 1781 [369]  
Parole form of Captain Joseph Quinten of the brig Nance and Prize Master William Oakman of the Arnold, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for "*the oldest prisoners of equal rank*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
332. December 5, 1781 [370]  
Parole form for passenger John Russel Kelso on the brig York, to go to the house of George Kelso [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
333. December 3, 1781 [370]  
Parole form for Daniel Tingley, master of the packet Lord North, to go to the house of [Major] John Adam [in Philadelphia; previously Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth] and to remain there until exchanged
334. December 20, 1781 [371]  
Parole form for Andrew Dennison, master of the brig True Britton of London, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Charles Bedelle of the brig Active, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

335. January 10, 1782 [372]  
Parole letter of George Halliburton, late master of the schooner Success, to go to Philadelphia and deliver himself to the commissary of prisoners
336. [?] 1782 [373]  
Blank parole form
337. July 21, 1782 [373]  
Parole form for John Blain, late master of the brig Glasgow, to go to the house of Mr. Applegate [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
- Note:** Parole security statements and forms are microfilmed out of chronological order, as follows:  
June 3, 1780 through July 22, 1782 documents 163-337 (frames 263-373)  
April 10, 1778 through June 13, 1780 documents 338-529 (frames 375-482)
338. July 14, 1778 [375]  
Parole letter from Lieutenants Simon Wilmot, John Balut [?], Hugh Fraser, and Walter Cunningham; and Masters James Donovan of the schooner Reed, John Stapler of the sloop Batchelor, Leonard Musickman of the brig Synathee [?], and John Aworth of the Roebuck, naval prisoners of war at Lancaster, promising, consistent with the permission granted them, to travel directly from Lancaster to Philadelphia, to remain there under the direction of John Beatty, American Commissary General of Prisoners, and to obey all the rules required of prisoners of war
339. April 10, 1778 [376]  
Parole letter of Martin Malloney, master of the schooner Industry, to go from Philadelphia to Reading and then to Bucks County, and to remain there until exchanged
340. September 14, 1778 [376]  
Parole form for James Holmes, late passenger on the Sloop Active from Jamaica, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia] and to stay there until exchanged
341. November 4, 1778 [377]  
Parole letter of Edmund Shuckburgh, late surgeon of the privateer sloop of war Rose and prisoner-of-war of France, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a French prisoner-of-war of equal rank; witnessed by Bradford

342. November 4, 1778 [378]  
Parole letter of James Duncan, late master of the privateer Rose, and prisoner-of-war of France, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a French prisoner-of-war of equal rank
343. January 13, 1779 [379]  
Parole form for Lieutenant Christopher Hele of the Preston, to go to the house of David Franks in Philadelphia
344. March 5, 1779 [379]  
Parole form for George Gaynes, master's mate of the ship Raleigh, to go to the house of William Meston [in Philadelphia] and remain there
345. March 15, 1779 [380]  
Parole letter of Gunner Mate James Blair, at Baltimore, to go to Philadelphia, seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank
346. April 22, 1779 [381]  
Parole letter of Captain John Gray, Midshipman Robert King, Prize Master John Carter, Midshipman Thomas Douglas, William Williamson, John Morrison, William Hagard, Captain Tunis Montaigne, James Smithy, and Master's Mate George Gayns, all at Philadelphia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoners of equal rank
347. June 23, 1779 [382]  
Parole form for Noble Caldwell, master of the privateer Jenny of New York, to go to the house of Mrs. Henderson [in Philadelphia] and remain there
348. July 10, 1779 [382]  
Parole form for William R. Delaplaine, a passenger on the sloop Clinton, to go to the house of Mary Delaplaine in Shrewsbury, New York and to remain there until exchanged
349. July 21, 1779 [383]  
Parole letter of William Gaskins, master of the sloop Favourite, to go to Virginia, seeking to become a citizen of the State of Virginia; promising to return to Philadelphia with proof of his acceptance as a Virginia citizen
350. July 26, 1779 [384]  
Parole letter of Commander Charles Rumsey of the brig Liberty, John Underwood of the brig Burgoyne, passengers William Bush and John Arnston in the Burgoyne, John Burt, passengers Christian Smith, William Wilson, and Peter Gaeton in the Liberty, William Down on the Burgoyne, Prize Master John Agnen of the schooner Melinson, and Master Seaman William Horn, all at Philadelphia, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoners listed by name on the reverse side of the letter

351. August 6, 1779 [386]  
Parole form for Alexander Dorward, prize master of the Flying High, privateer of New York, to go to "*my house in Grey's Alley*" [Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
352. August 5, 1779 [386]  
Parole form for Joseph Pritchard, mate of the brig Mary, to go to the house of Nathaniel Brown [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
353. September 5, 1779 [387]  
Parole form for William Bult, master of the packet Dapplewood, to go to the house of Mrs. Jesse Row [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
354. August 25, 1779 [387]  
Parole form for John Frazier, passenger on the sloop Salt, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
355. September 7, 1779 [388]  
Parole form for Lieutenant George Scott of the sloop [?], to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
356. September 10, 1779 [388]  
Parole form for Lieutenant Joseph R. DePoyster of the Irish Hero, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged and to return to Philadelphia as a prisoner if not exchanged
357. September 10, 1779 [389]  
Parole letter of William Collins of New Providence, Bahamas, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for certain Philadelphia prisoners of the British
358. September 10, 1779 [390]  
Parole form for Thomas Bragg, inhabitant of Jamaica, to go to the house of Mrs. Humphries [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until exchanged
359. September 11, 1779 [390]  
Parole form for Edward Allison, captain of the brig Betsey and Margaret of New York, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
360. September 13, 1779 [391]  
Parole form for Alexander Russel late of the privateer Prince of Wales, to go to the house of Henry Mathews [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged

361. September 15, 1779 [391]  
Parole form for John Hall, captain of the sloop Prince of Wales of New York, to go to the house of John Hall [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
362. September 23, 1779 [392]  
Parole form for John Hall, captain of the sloop Rising Sun of New York, to go to the house of Jesse Rowe [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
363. September 21, 1779 [392]  
Parole form for Hugh Nesbit, passenger on the Lyon from Jamaica, to go to the house of James Meands [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
364. September 24, 1779 [393]  
Parole form for Thomas Atkinson, captain of the brig Polly, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
365. September 25, 1779 [393]  
Parole letter of Captain John Hall of the Prince of Wales, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain Griffin
366. September 26, 1779 [394]  
Parole form for William Nelson, master of the sloop Pomona, to go the house of John Clark [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
367. September 27, 1779 [394]  
Parole form for Isaac Mitchenson, master of the ship Molly, to go to the house of Elizabeth Yarnal [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
368. September 30, 1779 [395]  
Parole form for John Patrick Lynch, passenger in the brig Sea Horse, to go to the house of Mr. McCarty [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
369. September 30, 1779 [395]  
Parole form for Benedict Bym, Captain of the privateer brig Bayard of New York, to go to the house of Mrs. Magee [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
370. September 30, 1779 [396]  
Parole form for William Erwin, captain of the sloop Terrible, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
371. September 30, 1779 [396]  
Parole form for Charles LeTelier, lieutenant of the Bayard, to go to the house of John LeTelier [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged

372. September 30, 1779 [397]  
Parole form for Dominick Waters, captain of the brig Ellen, to go to the house of Davis Bevar [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
373. September 28, 1779 [397]  
Parole form for John Ritchie, captain of the schooner Dispatch of New York, to go to the house of John Clark [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
374. September 30, 1779 [398]  
Parole form for Craddock Kennett, prize master of the Susannah, to go from Philadelphia to Burlington [New Jersey] and to return "*within a week*"
375. September 30, 1779 [398]  
Parole form for James Dunholm, mate of the brig Lyon, to go from Philadelphia to Burlington, New Jersey and to return "*as soon as possible*"
376. October 2, 1779 [399]  
Parole form for Jonathan Friend Child, captain of the brig Lyon, to go to the house of Mrs. McCormick [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
377. October 4, 1779 [399]  
Parole form for Patrick Dunnagan, captain of marines on the sloop Active, to go to the house of Robert Lunsdale [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
378. October 7, 1779 [400]  
Parole form for John Tait, surgeon of the cutter Royal George, to go "*on board the Cutter & from thence when ordered to Germantown*", Pennsylvania
379. October 7, 1779 [400]  
Parole form for James Park, captain of the cutter Royal George, to go "*on board the Cutter & from thence when ordered will go to Germantown*"
380. October 8, 1779 [401]  
Parole letter from James Scott master, Thomas Bryan purser, and Caimoan McDonell surgeon, along with his servant John Davy, all on the sloop of war Hope, to go to Germantown and to remain there until exchanged
381. October 8, 1779 [402]  
Parole form for Michael Hyndman, captain of the sloop of war Hope, to go to Germantown, "*as soon as ordered by the Commissary of Prisoners*", and to remain there until exchanged



382. October 8, 1779 [402]  
Parole form for Edward Deall, lieutenant on the cutter Intrepid, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
383. October 8, 1779 [403]  
Parole letter of Thomas Sproule, midshipman of His Majesty's Sloop Harlan, to go to Germantown and remain there until exchanged
384. October 8, 1779 [404]  
Parole form for Laughlin McGuire, captain of the Active, to go to the house of Mrs. Magee [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
385. October 8, 1779 [404]  
Parole form for Samuel Date. Lieutenant of His Majesty's Sloop Hope, to go to Germantown, "*as soon as ordered by the Commissary of Prisoners*", and to remain there until exchanged
386. October 10, 1779 [405]  
Parole form for James Wishart, captain of the Chance, to go to the house of Captain Robert Harris [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
387. October 10, 1779 [405]  
Parole form for John Cobb, captain of the snow Diana of London, along with his boy James Ayres, to go from Philadelphia to New York, by way of Elizabeth, and "*if Cap<sup>t</sup> Buts [?] is not sent out for me will return to Philadelphia*" and remain there until exchanged
388. October 10, 1779 [406]  
Parole form for Jonathan Cooper, captain of the brig Triton, to go to [the house] of Mrs. Yarnell [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
389. October 10, 1779 [406]  
Parole form for John P. Lynch, passenger on the Seahorse, to go from Philadelphia to Burlington, New Jersey and remain there until receiving further orders
390. October 16, 1779 [407]  
Parole form for Peter Christian, passenger on the sloop Recovery, to go to the house of Mrs. Magee [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
391. October 11, 1779 [407]  
Parole form for Felix Fegan, captain of the cutter Intrepid and "*being permit to go on parole to solicit my exchange*", to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and "*if not exchanged for Cap<sup>t</sup> Manns will return*" [to Philadelphia] and remain there until exchanged

392. October 18, 1779 [408]  
Parole form for Richard Blake, captain of the privateer sloop Langolee of New York, to go to the house of Mrs. McCormick [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
393. October 18, 1779 [408]  
Parole form for Isaachar Woodbury, passenger on the ship Minerva of Halifax, to go to the house of Mrs. Legee [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
394. October 20, 1779 [409]  
Parole form for William Lawrence, master of the schooner Hope, to go to the house of Mr. John Duche [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
395. October 19, 1779 [409]  
Parole form for James Penny, master of the ship Minerva of Halifax, to go to the house of Mrs. Owens [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
396. October 22, 1779 [410]  
Parole form for Jacob Wright, passenger on the Recovery from Providence, to go to the house of Mrs. Broadhurst [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
397. October 21, 1779 [410]  
Parole form for Thomas Bragg, passenger on the brig Richmond, to go by the main road from Philadelphia to Bladensburg [probably Maryland, southwest of Baltimore] for two months
398. October 23, 1779 [411]  
Parole form for John Palfrey, late captain of the armed schooner Neptune, to go to the City Tavern [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
399. November 1, 1779 [411]  
Parole form for Edward Daltzell, prize master on the cutter Intrepid, to go by the main road to Carlisle [Pennsylvania]
400. November 1, 1779 [412]  
Parole form for Hugh Nesbit, passenger on the [?], to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and to remain there until receiving further orders
401. November 2, 1779 [412]  
Parole form for Aeneas Daly, prize master of the sloop Golden Rose, to go to the house of Mr. Davis Bevan [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged

402. November 2, 1779 [413]  
Parole form for Caimoan McDonnell, surgeon on the Hope, to go to the house of [?] and remain there until exchanged
403. November 2, 1779 [413]  
Parole form for Thomas Scott, master of the sloop of war Hope, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
404. November 5, 1779 [414]  
Parole form for James Powell, passenger on the sloop William, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
405. November 5, 1779 [414]  
Parole form for William Beers Dunlap, late of the ship of war Grafton, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
406. November 12, 1779 [415]  
Parole form for Jacob Getchaus, master of the privateer brig Impertinent, to go to the house of James Smith [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
407. November 13, 1779 [415]  
Parole letter of Lachlin McGuire, late commander of the sloop Active, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain James Armitage and to return if not successful
408. November 14, 1779 [416]  
Parole form for Francis Darrell, passenger on the Sutherland, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
409. November 30, 1779 [416]  
Parole form for George Ellis, surgeon of the Minerva, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
410. November 22, 1779 [417]  
Parole form for George Cavey, British midshipman, to go to the house of Mr. Stephens [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
411. November 22, 1779 [417]  
Parole letter of George Cox, master of the brig Eagle, to go to the house of Mr. Palmer [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until receiving further orders
412. November 25, 1779 [418]  
Parole form for Walter Smyth, sailing master of the brig Bayard, to go to the house of John Patterson [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged

413. November 25, 1779 [418]  
Parole form for Edward Daltzell, prize mate on the cutter Intrepid, to go to [the house of] Thomas Savage [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
414. November 26, 1779 [419]  
Parole form for John Brightman, master of the sloop William, to go to the house of John Boyle [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
415. November 26, 1779 [419]  
Parole form for James Park, master of the cutter Royal George, to go to the house of Mather [?] Hand [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
416. November 26, 1779 [420]  
Parole form for John Johnson, lieutenant of the privateer Mercury of New York, to go to the house of Thomas Swain [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged
417. December 5, 1779 [420]  
Parole form for Isaachar Woodbury, supercargo on the ship Minerva of Halifax, to go from Philadelphia to Boston and to remain there until receiving further directions there or until exchanged
418. December 12, 1779 [421]  
Parole form for Nicholas Bodkin, supercargo on the brig Polly, to go from Philadelphia to New York and to remain there until exchanged or until recalled to Philadelphia
419. December 5, 1779 [421]  
Parole form for Dominick Waters, master of the brig Ellen, to go from Philadelphia to New York to seek to be exchanged and to return to Philadelphia, unless exchanged
420. December 12, 1779 [422]  
Parole form for Thomas Sproule, late of the sloop Harlan, to go from Philadelphia to New York and to remain there until exchanged or until recalled to Philadelphia
421. December 12, 1779 [422]  
Parole form for William Beers Dunlap, late in the British Navy, to go from Philadelphia to New York and to remain there until exchanged or until recalled to Philadelphia
422. December 13, 1779 [423]  
Parole form for John Paysley, captain of the schooner Patsy, to go to "*my house*" [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until receiving further orders

423. December 20, 1779 [423]  
Parole letter of Walter Smith, sailing master of the privateer Bayard, to go from Philadelphia to the West Indies, seeking to be exchanged
424. January 1, 1780 [424]  
Parole form for John Shreiver, mate of the brig Providence, to go to the house of James Preston [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until receiving further orders
425. December 31, 1779 [424]  
Parole form for John Ritchie, master of the schooner Dispatch, to go from Philadelphia to Boston and to John Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in Massachusetts, and to remain there until exchanged or to return to Philadelphia, if not successful  
**[Note: Joshua Mersereau (1728, 1734, or 1738-1804), his brother John Mersereau (1731-1820), and John's son John LaGrange Mersereau (1757 or 1760-1841), came from a French Huguenot family living on Staten Island. Before the Revolution, the brothers had started the first organized stagecoach service in America, between New York and Philadelphia. During the Revolution, Joshua and his brother John (at least briefly) served as Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners. The three were also apparently involved in a shadowy intelligence network established personally by George Washington but perhaps managed through Boudinot. In 1776-1777, Joshua Mersereau was living in Boston, from where he became involved in prisoner-of-war matters in areas of New England.]**
426. January 1, 1780 [425]  
Parole form for James Park, captain of the cutter Royal George, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Captain James Armitage and otherwise to return to Philadelphia
427. January 1, 1780 [425]  
Parole form for William Bult, master of the packet Dashwood, to go from Philadelphia to New York by way of Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for Captain James Young or some other captain from Philadelphia, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
428. January 3, 1780 [426]  
Parole form for Edward Deall, prize master of the Intrepid, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Brice, mate of the ship Lady Washington, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
429. January 1, 1780 [426]  
Parole form for Henry Barclay of the brig Providence, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a Dr. Diggs of Maryland, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

430. January 4, 1780 [427]  
Parole form for Jonathan Esthill, master of the snow Polly, to go to the house of John Pemberton [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged or until receiving further orders
431. January 17, 1780 [427]  
Parole form for Isaac Mitchinson, master of the ship Molly, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until exchanged
432. January 23, 1780 [428]  
Parole form for John Munns, master of the brig Providence, to go from Philadelphia to New York, via Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for an American prisoner of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia, if not successful
433. February 13, 1780 [428]  
Parole form for Peter Christian, passenger, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and from there to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Graham
434. February 13, 1780 [429]  
Parole form for John Paysley, late master of the schooner Patsy, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and to remain there until exchanged or until receiving further orders
435. February 13, 1780 [429]  
Parole form for William Nelson, master of the sloop [?] to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and to remain there for further orders
436. February 13, 1780 [430]  
Parole form for Abraham Wiltbank of the Hothan [?], to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and remain there until exchanged or until receiving further orders
437. February 16, 1780 [430]  
Parole form for George Campbell, late master of the schooner Mercury of New York, to go from Philadelphia to William Milner [in Philadelphia] and to remain until receiving further orders
438. February 24, 1780 [431]  
Parole form for Edward Daltzell, late sailing master of the ship Resolution, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for George May, sailing master of the Revenge and, if failing, to return to Philadelphia
439. March 8, 1780 [431]  
Parole form for William Barber, master of the brig Suckey of New York, to go to the house of Mrs. Barber [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged or until receiving further orders

440. March 13, 1780 [432]  
Parole form for George Hay, midshipman late of the [?], to go to the house of Henry Gurnay [?] [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged or until receiving further orders
441. March 13, 1780 [432]  
Parole form for John Ewing, late master of the snow Wolf of Antigua, to go to the house of Mrs. Richardson [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until exchanged or until receiving further orders
442. April 2, 1780 [433]  
Parole form for Caimoan McDonnell, surgeon of the sloop of war Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Dr. Carret, a French prisoner-of-war, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful.
443. March 13, 1780 [433]  
Parole form for Michael Hynman, commander of the sloop of war Hope, to go to the house of Mrs. Harding [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until receiving further orders
444. April 2, 1780 [434]  
Parole form for Aeneas Daly, late prize master of the ship Golden Rose, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for [?] Welch, mate of the brig Industry, now in New York, and to return to Philadelphia if not successful
445. April 2, 1780 [434]  
Parole form for Francis Darrell, late passenger on the Sutherland, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Edward Dawes, late passenger on the brig Granada and on parole in Philadelphia, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
446. April 2, 1780 [435]  
Parole form for Jacob Wright, late passenger on the sloop Sally, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for Benjamin Tatum, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
447. April 2, 1780 [435]  
Parole form for Alexander Dorward, late lieutenant on the Fryal, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Robert Mercer, late of the ship Lady Washington, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
448. April 2, 1780 [436]  
Parole form for John Baptiste Meschinet, surgeon's mate on the sloop of war Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Gilland, surgeon on the Lady Washington, who is out on parole, and to return to Philadelphia if not successful

449. April 2, 1780 [436]  
Parole form for Charles LeTelier, lieutenant of the privateer brig Bayard, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Peter LeTelier, lieutenant of the brig Industry, and to return to Philadelphia if not successful.
450. April 20, 1780 [437]  
Parole form for James Sullivan, late passenger on the Golden Rose, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for the French prisoner-of-war Monsieur Therie, now at Philadelphia, and to return to Philadelphia if not successful
451. April 2, 1780 [438]  
Parole form for Jacob Getchaus, late master of the brig Impertinent, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for Captain William Hayman of the ship George, and to return to Philadelphia if not successful
452. April 23, 1780 [439]  
Parole form for Jacob Bufflere, late pilot of the sloop of war Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Harrison, late master of the schooner Fortune, and to return to Philadelphia if not successful
453. May 4, 1780 [440]  
Parole form for Joseph McMeakin, master of the ship Needham, to go from Philadelphia to Germantown and to remain there until receiving further orders
454. May 4, 1780 [440]  
Parole form for John Ebert, late of the ship Queen Charlotte, to go to the house of Mr. Shields [in Philadelphia] and to remain there until receiving further orders
455. May 4, 1780 [441]  
Parole form for George Ellis, late surgeon on the Minerva, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for Gilbert Tennent, late surgeon on the General Wayne, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
456. May 6, 1780 [441]  
Parole form for James Downie, late master of the bring Arbuthnot, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
457. May 6, 1780 [442]  
Parole form for George Campbell, late master of the schooner Mercury, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Rice, late master of the General Wayne, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful



458. May 6, 1780 [442]  
Parole form for William Ervin, late master of the sloop Terrible, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Samuel Davidson, late master of the brig General Reed, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
459. May 6, 1780 [443]  
Parole form for Thomas Barton, late prize master on the schooner Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Thomas Albertson of the brig General Wayne, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
460. May 6, 1780 [443]  
Parole form for Lawrence Lacey, late prize master of the schooner Benjamin, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for [?] Martins, late prize master on the Hetty, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
461. May 6, 1780 [444]  
Parole form for William Greig, late prize master of the privateer Langolee, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Daniel Barnhill, late prize master on the General Reed, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
462. May 6, 1780 [444]  
Parole form for Thomas Atkinson, late master of the brig Polly of London, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for John Brice, late master of the ship Hetty, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
463. May 6, 1780 [445]  
Parole form for Richard Judd, late mate of the Triton, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a "*person of equal rank belonging to Philad<sup>a</sup> now in New York*", or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
464. May 6, 1780 [445]  
Parole form for Lieutenant Richard Hill, late of the ship Minerva, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for [?] Atkinson, late lieutenant of the brig General Wayne, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
465. May 6, 1780 [446]  
Parole form for William Ryan, Lieutenant of Marines on the privateer Jenny, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Thomas Shute, lieutenant of marines on the General Wayne now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

466. May 6, 1780 [447]  
Parole form for William Whalon, late lieutenant of the Bayard, to go to New York, seeking to be exchanged for the lieutenant of the General Reed, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
467. May 6, 1780 [448]  
Parole form for Samuel Hudnut, captain of marines on the privateer Bayard, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for [?] Honeyman, captain of marines on the General Reed, in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
468. May 6, 1780 [448]  
Parole form for Joseph Bennett, late lieutenant of the cutter Royal Gorge, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for the lieutenant of the Neptune, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
469. May 9, 1780 [449]  
Parole letter of George Mitchell, mate of the ship Betsy, at the forks of Egg Harbor, to go to Philadelphia as a prisoner-of-war
470. May 6, 1780 [449]  
Parole form for Henry Dean, lieutenant of the Langolee, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a lieutenant of a privateer belonging to Philadelphia now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
471. May 9, 1780 [450]  
Parole form for Jonathan F. Child, late master of the brig Lyon, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Archibald Young, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
472. May 9, 1780 [450]  
Parole form for Samuel Saunders, late prize master of the brig Impertinent, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Thomas Ewing, late prize master of the ship Hetty, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
473. May 12, 1780 [451]  
Parole form for Andrew Lee, late master of the sloop Swallow, to go to Germantown and to remain there until receiving further orders
474. May 10, 1780 [451]  
Parole form for John Burton, late passenger on the brig Elphinston, to go the house of Captain Peter Young [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders

475. May 12, 1780 [452]  
Parole form for James Downie, late master of the privateer Arbuthnot, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders
476. May 12, 1780 [452]  
Parole form for James Downie, late master of the privateer Arbuthnot, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders [slightly different copy of document 475]
477. May 13, 1780 [453]  
Parole form for George Mitchell, mate of the ship Betsy of London, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for John Wilson, lieutenant of marines on the Hetty, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
478. May 13, 1780 [454]  
Parole form for William Saunders, midshipman in the British service, "*to go abroad from the new Goal occasionally*" for walks, and to return each evening, until receiving further orders
479. May 13, 1780 [455]  
Parole form for James Penny, late master of the ship Minerva, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Gibbs Jones, last master of the sloop Passive, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
480. May 13, 1780 [455]  
Parole form for Thomas Ubsdale, gunner on the Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
481. May 13, 1780 [456]  
Parole form for Thomas Cocheran, late lieutenant of the ship Charlotte, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Thomas Pitts, lieutenant on the General Reed
482. May 13, 1780 [457]  
Parole form for Peter Petrie, lieutenant of the schooner Mercury, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for William Whitpain [?], lieutenant of the General Reed, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
483. May 13, 1780 [458]  
Parole form for John Johnson, late lieutenant of the schooner Mercury, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for Robert Mercer, lieutenant of the ship Hetty, now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

484. May 13, 1780 [458]  
Parole form for Nugent Croston, late lieutenant of the Hammond, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, say John Field, lieutenant on the General Wayne, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
485. May 17, 1780 [459]  
Parole form for Thomas Scott, late master of the sloop Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
486. May 17, 1780 [459]  
Parole form for Jonathan Cooper, late master of the Triton, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
487. May 17, 1780 [460]  
Parole form for Isaac Mitchinson, late mater of the Triton [or Molly?], to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
488. May 18, 1780 [461]  
Parole form for George Douglass, midshipman, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, "*& there follow the directions of John Adam, deputy commissary of prisoners*"  
[Note: John Adam served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth from 1779 until 1783.]
489. May 17, 1780 [461]  
Parole form for Benedict Byrne, late master of the brig Bayard, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
490. May 18, 1780 [462]  
Parole form for William Saunders, late midshipman on the Hotham, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and there to follow the directions of John Adam, deputy commissary of prisoners there
491. May 18, 1780 [462]  
Parole form for George Hay, midshipman, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, and there to follow the directions of John Adam, deputy commissary of prisoners there

492. May 17, 1780 [463]  
Parole form for William Lawrence, late master of the Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
493. May 20, 1780 [464]  
Parole form for John Schreeve, late mate of the brig Providence, to go to the house of John Cobourn [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders
494. May 18, 1780 [464]  
Parole form for Peter Snodgrass, midshipman in the British service, "*to go abroad from the New Goal Occasionally*" to take walks, and to return each evening, until receiving further orders
495. May 21, 1780 [465]  
Parole form for Thomas Pagan, late passenger on the Swallow, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, there to follow the directions of John Adam, deputy commissary of prisoners
496. May 24, 1780 [465]  
Parole form for William Barton, late passenger on the ship Commerce, to go to the house of [?] and to remain there until receiving further orders
497. May 23, 1780 [466]  
Parole letter of [American] Samuel Davis, on the privateer brig Digbee [?], pledging not to speak or give intelligence "*to the Enemy's of Great Britain*" until regularly exchanged; to be delivered to the commissary of prisoners at New York; letter to be delivered to Bradford at Philadelphia
498. May 24, 1780 [467]  
Parole form for William Corran, late master of the ship Commerce, to go to Germantown, and remain there until receiving further orders
499. May 24, 1780 [467]  
Parole form for John Newsum, late passenger on the Commerce, to go to the house of Mrs. Leech [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders
500. May 27, 1780 [468]  
Parole form for James Brightman, captain of the sloop William, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

501. May 24, 1780 [468]  
Parole form for Hugh Smith, late captain of marines on the Commerce, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders
502. May 27, 1780 [469]  
Parole form for Hugh Smith, late captain of marines on the ship Commerce, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
503. May 27, 1780 [469]  
Parole form for John Newsum, late passenger on the ship Commerce, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
504. May 27, 1780 [470]  
Parole form for Peter Snodgrass, late master of the dispatch boat Fly, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
505. May 27, 1780 [470]  
Parole form for Richard Blake, late captain of the schooner Langolee, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
506. May 27, 1780 [471]  
Parole form for John Wilkie, late master of the schooner Sutherland, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
507. May 27, 1780 [471]  
Parole form for John Hall, late master of the schooner Queen Charlotte, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia], and to remain there
508. May 28, 1780 [472]  
Parole form for Thomas Rowe, late passenger on the Susannah, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
509. May 27, 1780 [472]  
Parole form for William Barton, late passenger on the Commerce, to go from Philadelphia to Elizabeth, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank now in New York, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
510. May 30, 1780 [473]  
Parole form for Henry Leake, late passenger on the brig Nymph, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders

511. May 31, 1780 [473]  
Parole form for Thomas Logan, late passenger on the Nymph, to go to the house of [?] [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders
512. May 31, 1780 [474]  
Parole form for George Lovey, late passenger on the Nymph, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders
513. May 31, 1780 [474]  
Parole form for David Hunter, late master of the brig Nymph, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders
514. May 31, 1780 [475]  
Parole form for John Jarvis, late passenger on the brig Nymph, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders
515. May 31, 1780 [475]  
Parole form for Jacob Jarvis, late passenger on the Nymph, to go to Germantown, and to remain there until receiving further orders
516. June 3, 1780 [476]  
Parole form for James Ewing, late master of the snow Wolf, for himself and his boy Mitchell Cutter, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
517. June 3, 1780 [476]  
Parole form for Michael Hyndman, late master and commander of the sloop of war Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
518. June 3, 1780 [477]  
Parole form for Thomas Logan, dated and signed, but with no instructions or permissions filled in
519. June 3, 1780 [477]  
Parole form for Henry Lake, passenger on the Nymph, dated and signed, but with no instructions or permissions filled in
520. June 3, 1780 [478]  
Parole form for Andrew Lee, late master of the sloop Swallow, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful

521. June 3, 1780 [478]  
Parole form for Jonathan Esthill, late master of the Polly, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful; signed with a note from Esthill "*Agreed to the Substance but some objection to the Form*"
522. June 3, 1780 [479]  
Parole form for David Hunter, late master of the brig Nymph, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
523. June 3, 1780 [479]  
Parole form for Captain George Loving, late passenger on the brig Nymph, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
524. June 3, 1780 [480]  
Parole form for Moses Fletcher, late master of the brig Clyde, to go to the house of Mr. Henderson [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders
525. June 3, 1780 [480]  
Parole form for Benedict Byrne, late master of the brig Bayard, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
526. June 7, 1780 [481]  
Parole form of John Burton, late passenger on the Elphinston, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
527. June 7, 1780 [481]  
Parole form of John Ebert, late lieutenant of the schooner Queen Charlotte, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
528. June 10, 1780 [482]  
Parole form for Samuel Date, lieutenant of the sloop of war Hope, to go from Philadelphia to New York, seeking to be exchanged for a person of equal rank, or to return to Philadelphia if not successful
529. June 13, 1780 [482]  
Parole form for Mackintosh Alexander, late mate of the brig Sally of London, to go to the house of Mrs. Griffith [in Philadelphia], and to remain there until receiving further orders



## Thomas Bradford Correspondence Concerning British Army Prisoners of War at Philadelphia (begin)

June 17, 1777 to August 23, 1779      Documents 530-772      [Frames 484-830]  
(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in HSP Collection 71 and/or 1676)

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

530. June 9, 1881 [484]  
Handwritten cover statement, by Townsend March with title "*The Bradfords*", stating that "*The following pages are transcribed from the originals written by Colonel William Bradford*", with additional comments about the content and family context; followed by  
20-page handwritten text of "*The Bradfords*" in the same handwriting; it contains a history of Thomas Bradford's Philadelphia family, from about 1660 through 1783.  
[**Note:** Prominent members of this Bradford family include **William Bradford** (1663-1732), the American patriarch of the family who emigrated to Philadelphia and established the multi-generational family printing business, which included publication, after 1742, of the influential Philadelphia weekly *Pennsylvania Journal*; **William Bradford** (1721-1791), grandson of the first William in America, who expanded the family's business and influence; **William Bradford** (1755-1795), son of the second William; **Thomas Bradford** (1745-1838), son of the second William, proprietor of the family's ongoing printing business, and Deputy Commissary of Prisoners and later Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners during the Revolutionary War, whose papers these are; and **Thomas Bradford** (1781-1851), son of the first Thomas Bradford.]
531. March 6, 1797 [504]  
Letter perhaps from a man referred to in the letter as "*Old Sampson*," at Philadelphia, to Mr. Bradford (probably Thomas); a personal letter, containing also memories of the Revolutionary War period and commentary on contemporary politics
532. June 17, 1777 [506]  
Letter from Lasule [?] at Middlebrook [New Jersey, northwest of New Brunswick, location of Continental Army encampments in part of 1777 and winter 1778-1779] to William Poyntale at the Coffee House, Philadelphia, about personal matters, including offering a "*berth*" as either a regimental clerk or an ensign [first page on frame 506; second and third pages following document 533 on frame 507]

[**Note:** What was in 1777 called **The Coffee House** was originally the Second London Coffee House, established by William Bradford (Thomas' father) in 1754 in a building erected in 1702. Under the ownership of the printer family of Bradfords, it became a favorite spot for socializing and political conversation. When the British occupied Philadelphia in 1777, the conversation changed from patriot to tory but soon changed back again, with the coffee house's name no longer associated with London.]

533. [no date] [506]  
Request to William C. Bradford [probably the brother of Thomas, although the middle initial is not usually associated with him] for payment of wages due to guards of "*the city*" [probably Philadelphia] for August 1777; signed by 7 individuals  
[**Note:** As noted above, in the documents in this Reel, "Bradford" refers to **Colonel Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (Deputy Commissary General** after October 19, 1780) at Philadelphia, unless identified with another first name. See also notes on Bradford's position after document 590 and on his family after document 530.]
534. December 31, 1777 [509]  
Personal letter from John D. Mercier at Canaan [perhaps Canaan, New York, between Albany and Pittsfield, Massachusetts, or perhaps what is now called New Canaan, Connecticut, northeast of New York City] to Dr. Cour sharing observations about continuing military activity in the Long Island area [following the August 1777 Battle of Long Island, which led to British occupation of New York]  
[**Note:** From the perspective of the Bradford papers, **John Dyer Mercier** (?-1804) is a shadowy figure, who appears in six scattered letters. cursory secondary searching has not brought much more clarity, but what has been found yields a few clues. Mercier was a French Canadian, who as a young adult became a substantial merchant in Québec City. Early in the Revolutionary War, during the American campaign against Québec commanded by Colonel (and soon to be Brigadier General) Benedict Arnold in 1775, Mercier was arrested for aiding the enemy. Garbled secondary information says that Arnold arrested him but also states that his arrest was for assisting American troops. He thus became a prisoner-of-war, but in whose prison is not clear. This letter suggests he might have been prisoner of the British, at Canaan, but why he was reporting to Dr. Cour on British military movements is not clear, nor is the identity of the mysterious Dr. Cour, who appears to be Mercier's friend. How Mercier became acquainted with Bradford and corresponded with him in March and April 1778 (documents 555, 560, and 568) is also not clear. If Mercier had been prisoner of the Americans, he might have met Bradford in his capacity as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at "Camp" perhaps in late 1777 and during the first half of 1778, before Bradford moved to Philadelphia after the British evacuation.

Document 555, dated March 7, 1778, compounds the confusion, written from Albany, apparently to Bradford, Mercier wishes to be back home, seemingly in Canaan, New York, in which case he was not then a prisoner and neither Canaan was the location of his prison. Stranger yet, in this letter, Mercier is awaiting an important letter from General Arnold. How does this relate to his supposed arrest by Arnold in 1775?

Document 560, dated March 23, 1778 definitely to Bradford, is written back in Canaan. The contents are fairly personal, as if the two had become friends.

Document 568, dated April 24, 1778, written at Canaan to Bradford, with personal news.

Document 765, dated August 17, 1779, written to Bradford by a mutual friend of both Mercier and Bradford, seeks help in communicating with Mercier, who is supposed to be living at Stamford (quite near New Canaan) and receiving mail at Danbury, Connecticut.

What is clear is that sometime between 1775 and 1779, Mercier decided to become an active supporter of the American revolutionary cause. By sometime before 1779, perhaps long before then, he had been freed from prison.

Sometime that year, he moved to Philadelphia and became employed in the American governmental structure, using his business knowledge for revolutionary purposes. He was first appointed a Commissioner of Accounts and soon after a Commissioner of Claims. Later, in 1782, he became an Auditor for the Treasury, a position he held until 1787.

The final letter of the six Mercier letters, in Reel 6, document 360, dated March 21, 1781, was written by Mercier, as a personal letter containing some war news, to Dr. Cour again, just over four years after his last letter to Cour in the Bradford papers. Apparently the mutual friendship among Cour, Mercier, and Bradford persevered over the years. Whether there was more than friendship is unclear. If there is more than friendship, is it possible, unsubstantiated in this correspondence, that the “shadowy” Mercier was doing undercover spying for the American cause, and that Cour was a code name? More substantial, but still circumstantial, evidence exists that Elias Boudinot’s prisoner-of-war correspondence with Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Joshua Mersereau for Massachusetts was intermingled with some clandestine communication of intelligence information. Maybe Bradford was similarly engaged.]

535. January 6, 1778 [512]  
Letter from [American] prisoner-of-war John Whiteman, ensign in the German regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Wittnar, at New Jail [Philadelphia] to Colonel Daniel Clymer, concerning Whiteman’s lack of clothing since being captured as a prisoner-of-war

**[Note: Colonel Daniel Clymer** (1748-1810) had been working on prisoner-of-war matters with Boudinot since at least August 1777. In December 1777, as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Camp, he was appointed by Congress to be available temporarily to assume the duties of Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot, in his absence. A few days later, on January 17, 1778, Bradford was appointed by the Continental Congress to be a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, initially assigned to the American Camp, apparently replacing Clymer.]

536. August 11, 1777 [513]  
Letter from Robert Cowperthwait [?], in camp at Elizabeth, to Bradford, at the Coffee House, Philadelphia, concerning military officers [probably prisoners of war]  
**[Note:** Besides being a center of socializing and political conversation (see the note after document 532), the Coffee House apparently served to some extent, at this early time at least, as Bradford's office as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia.]
537. August 18, 1777 [516]  
Letter from Joseph Riggs and Bethuel Pierson at Newark [probably Delaware rather than New Jersey] to Bradford as printer, concerning their subscription to his newspaper
538. January 6, 1778 [518]  
Letter from [American] prisoner of war John Cordell, Chaplain to the 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment, at New Jail, to Commissary of Prisoners at the American Camp, Colonel Daniel Clymer, concerning a lack of clothes
539. January 6, 1778 [520]  
Letter from [American] prisoner-of-war Captain John Poulson of the 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment, at New Jail, Philadelphia to Clymer, hoping for the return of his clothing that was sent to Reading [Pennsylvania, site of another prisoner-of-war prison] in a pair of saddle bags
540. January 11, 1778 [521]  
Letter from Poulson at New Jail to Clymer, seeking help in returning his baggage
541. January 11, 1778 [523]  
Letter from [American] prisoner-of-war Captain Lieutenant Jonathan Brener, of the [?] Artillery, commanded by Colonel Thomas Procter, at New Jail, to Clymer, concerning his clothing and paying for his needs
542. January 11, 1778 [525]  
Letter from Brener at New Jail to [?], concerning his clothing

543. January 18, 1778 [526]  
Letter from Colonel Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, to [?], concerning prisoners of war  
[Note: Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Reading** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Easton. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. A German immigrant (originally Heinrich), **Colonel Henry Haller** (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 through sometime in 1782.]
544. January 19, 1778 [526]  
Letter from Colonel Stevens Radnor to General George Washington, concerning prisoners of war, with note "*the money sent to Mrs [?] Reading by Col Craig*"  
[Note: **Money** was important in the prisoner-of-war "business," both to provide subsistence resources for needy prisoners of war and their families during their incarceration and to settle financial debts as part of the prisoner-of-war exchange process. The American commissaries of prisoners worked hard to provide basic food, clothing, and wood for heating for British and German prisoners (as amply documented in these papers). They also offered opportunities for some prisoners to be paid for their labor outside the prisons (as documented in these papers for both Lancaster and Philadelphia). Some prisoners even received financial support from their British or German regiments. Yet, the provisions and money available were often insufficient to meet the needs of many prisoners, especially those with wives and children.]
545. January 19, 1778 [?] [527]  
Letter from Tench Tilghman at Valley Forge to [?], concerning the movement of British prisoners of war  
[Note: **Tench Tilghman** (1744-1786) served as an aide de camp to General Washington, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His Maryland family split between Patriots and Tories.]
546. January 19, 1778 [528]  
Letter from Tilghman to Bradford at Spread Eagle [probably the Spread Eagle Tavern, south of Valley Forge], concerning taking two gentlemen [prisoners of war?] "*down to the lines to procure an interview with Mr. Franks*"
547. January 21, 1778 [529]  
Letter from Elias Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners, at Newark [New Jersey or Delaware?], to Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at the American Camp, concerning supplies for prisoners of war [copy in Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, document 117]

**[Note:** Bradford had been appointed a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners by the Continental Congress just a few days before, on January 17, 1778, apparently succeeding Daniel Clymer in that position at the American Camp.]

548. [no date] [531]  
Personal note from [IDM?] to [?] saying goodbye without proper adieux and to communicate via the care of Mrs. Woolsey in Danbury [probably Connecticut] [connection to the Bradford family is not clear]
549. January 22, 1778 [531]  
Personal letter from Timothy Farrell at Chatham [not clear where], to his sister Peggy Farrell, apparently in Ireland, to be delivered via Thomas Coleman at the Blue Anchor, Claymore [?] Point Mall, Maryland [Why this letter is found in the Bradford papers is not clear; perhaps it was written by a prisoner-of-war, was confiscated, and was never delivered.]
550. January 24, 1778 [534]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin [a Quaker merchant; apparently not a relative of Benjamin Franklin] at Philadelphia to Bradford at the American camp, concerning feeding and clothing American prisoners of war at Philadelphia
551. January 24, 1778 [536]  
Letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Bradford at the American camp, concerning prisoner-of-war matters, including a comment on the fate of American prisoners of war: *"I find many difficulties in making Provision for our unfortunate Countrymen in New York, but hope to surmount them all."*  
**[Note:** In 1777, Boudinot bought a house, still standing today, in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Located southwest of Morristown, it became his family home while the British occupied New York to the north and Philadelphia to the south.]
552. January 29, 1778 [539]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war John LeFaver at New Jail [Philadelphia] to Clymer, seeking money and clothing assistance  
**[Note:** LeFaver evidently did not know that Clymer had just been replaced by Bradford.]
553. February 3, 1778 [541]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Captain George Joseph Fenwick at Reading to Boudinot, requesting a parole to seek assistance to meet his needs
554. March 2, 1778 [543]  
Letter from Robert Collings at Greenwich [Connecticut] to the *"Navy Board of the state Pennsylvania Trenton [sic]"*, concerning gun ammunition, payments for men, and other naval matters

555. March 7, 1778 [546]  
Personal letter from Mercier, now at Albany to [Bradford], having moved from Canaan; wishing to come home; expecting a letter from General Benedict Arnold, which he believes has gone astray [for more on Mercier, see note after document 534]
556. March 13, 1778 [548]  
Letter from Boudinot, at Camp, to Bradford at Philadelphia, with instructions to intercept three prisoners of war, Captain Battut, Lieutenant Wilmot, and Lieutenant Frazier, who had improperly received certain public money, which is to be received back from them, dollar for dollar, in Spanish milled dollars or equivalent, at the White Horse Tavern, on the Lancaster Road.  
[Note: The **White Horse Tavern** is located in what is now Frazer, Pennsylvania, about half way between Lancaster and Philadelphia on what is now U.S. Route 30.]
557. March 16, 1778 [549]  
Letter from Boudinot, at Camp, to Bradford, confirming with him that the three prisoners of war must return the money they received "*in hard money*", consistent with an act of Congress dated December 19, 1777, which is quoted in part in the letter
558. March 20, 1778 [550]  
Receipt for receiving "*three bundles of apparel & a seal bundle of Cash*", and for agreeing to deliver it to H. Hugh Ferguson for the use of American prisoners of war; signed at Philadelphia by [British] Captain W. D. Fawcitt of the 44<sup>th</sup> Regiment
559. March 16, 1778 [550]  
Letter from Captain Thomas Cartwright at White Horse Tavern to Boudinot at Camp, reporting that the three prisoner-of-war officers, saying that they had been paid in paper, refused to repay in hard money; stating that, although Cartwright holds the passport from Boudinot ordering him to return the three officers to Philadelphia by the main road, he has agreed to wait to hear from Bradford about resolution of the money situation before moving on toward Philadelphia
560. March 23, 1778 [553]  
Personal letter from Mercier, back at Canaan, to Bradford at Headquarters, including references to Canada and other personal matters [for more on Mercier, see note after document 534]
561. March 28, 1778 [557]  
Statement by Charles Stedman Jr., Deputy Commissary of Prisoners [at location not stated] acknowledging receipt of 17 named "*gentleman*" prisoners plus 6 servants

562. April 6, 1778 [557]  
Receipt for several items received from Bradford to be delivered to Colonel Sealy at Elizabeth; signed by Captain David Lyon
563. April 1, 1778 [557]  
Receipt for having received, from Lieutenant Charles Stewart of the Continental Army, 20 head of cattle for use by British prisoners of war; signed at Philadelphia by Captain Charles Grant of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Royal Highland Regiment  
[Note: Scottish Highlander **Charles Grant** was a distant cousin of James Grant of Ballindaloch, who had a long military career in the British Army in the West Indies, South Carolina, and western Pennsylvania, before serving as Governor of British East Florida and later again in the army, rising to the rank of Colonel during the Revolutionary War. Charles fought under James' command in the 1758 unsuccessful attempt to capture Fort Duquesne. He too served militarily through most of the Revolutionary War, rising to the rank of captain.]
564. April 11, 1778 [558]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford at the American Camp, concerning the provision of food and hay for American prisoners of war at Philadelphia
565. April 11, 1778 [560]  
Letter from prisoner of war George Joseph Fenwick to Bradford, stating that he has been treated with respect by the Americans, and raising further issues about his baggage and wishing to keep his horse [see also document 117 in the Boudinot Papers (Library of Congress) Reel 1]
566. April 20, 1778 [562]  
Letter from H. Hugh Ferguson at Philadelphia to Bradford, stating that he had expeditiously delivered provisions for prisoners of war by water; seeking "*a great indulgence to allow any trip [?] by water after the improper use made of that privilege heretofore granted*"
567. April 23, 1778 [564]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford, conveying baggage and clothing of the "*Late Col<sup>l</sup>. Tollaver Directed for Brigadear Gen<sup>l</sup>. Woodford*"; concerning the delivery of cattle
568. April 24, 1778 [566]  
Personal letter from Mercier at Canaan to Bradford at Camp, including bits of late military news and conjecture [for more on Mercier, see note after document 534]
569. April 25, 1778 [569]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford at Camp, concerning provision of vegetables, meat, and other needs for prisoners



570. April 27, 1778 [571]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war William Nichols and son at Reading to Boudinot, concerning his parole and potential exchange
571. May 7 and 9, 1778 [574]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford at Camp, concerning his attempts to obtain flour for the prisoners of war
572. April 29, 1778 [576]  
Receipt for ten head of cattle and a packet of letters, received from Captain John Redman; signed by Frederick Adare, Lieutenant and Captain of Guards  
[Note: On May 11, 1778, Elias Boudinot resigned as Commissary General of Prisoners, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also for reasons of ill health. Major (then Colonel) John Beatty was appointed on May 18 to be the new Commissary General of Prisoners. Boudinot continued actively, as a wealthy patriot, to support the American cause. For instance, see document 576. He also served as a member of the Continental Congress.]  
[Note: **Major John Beatty** (1749-1826) was a military man from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Captured at Fort Washington on November 16, 1776, he had been exchanged by early 1778. In May 1778, he was appointed to be Commissary General of Prisoners (and was thus promoted to Colonel), a position he held for two years, until May 1780. Following in the footsteps of the capable and popular Elias Boudinot must have been difficult. Boudinot had developed the prisoner-of-war network and system, and the correspondence suggests that Boudinot's Deputy Commissaries did not respond so positively to Beatty. After the war, Beatty moved to New Jersey and into politics, serving in sequence on the New Jersey Legislative Council, the Continental Congress, the New Jersey General Assembly as Speaker, as U.S. Representative, and as New Jersey Secretary of State.]
573. May 12, 1778 [576]  
Receipt for the arrival of 13 German prisoners of war, according to a Board of War order, the prisoners to be returned "*when remanded*"; signed by Samuel Jago for John Patton in Berks County [Pennsylvania]
574. May 23, 1778 [576]  
Letter from William Nichols to Bradford, seeking help in identifying an American captain for whom he might be exchanged [second page and postscript on frame 577]
575. May 11, 1778 [576]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Martin Mulloony at Reading to Bradford "*to be left at the Agudant Generals Vally forge*", requesting that "*you will use your Influency with his Excellency General Washington to Grant me a parole to go to Philadelphia as I am in Great distress for the want of money and cloathing*"

576. May 13, 1778 [579]  
Receipt for 9 barrels of flour "*& one empty Bar<sup>l</sup>. which was broke & the Flour lost for the use of the Continental Prisoners*" received from [Elias] Boudinot; signed by Thomas Hopkins
577. May 14, 1778 [579]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford, concerning delivery of hay, wood, potatoes, flour, with hopes for beef
578. May 12, 1778 [579]  
Letter from Elijah Weed Riley [?] at Downingtown, Pennsylvania [about half way between Lancaster and Philadelphia] to Bradford, stating that he has purchased potatoes, butter, and eggs for the prisoners of war and will also be sending flour, as ordered by Bradford
579. May 25, 1778 [582]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford at Camp, concerning the movement of supplies for prisoners of war
580. May 26, 1778 [585]  
Letter from John Hubley at Camp to Bradford "*now on his way to the Enemies lines with a Flag.—to Philad<sup>a</sup>.*", sending to him John Whitmore, who is seeking payment of several bills pertaining to some German Officers, former prisoners of war, now in Philadelphia, which must be paid in hard cash  
[Note: **John Hubley** of Lancaster (1747-1821) was an active American patriot in government and the Continental Army, and a close friend of William Augustus Atlee. His brother, **Adam Hubley** (1759-1798) served as a lieutenant colonel in the Continental Army. See the Atlee papers section of the DLAR microfilms of the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts in the Library of Congress), for letters between both Hubleys and Atlee, which are included in this Finding Aid. See the note after Reel 4 document 10 above for more on Atlee.]
581. May 28, 1778 [588]  
Letter from Bradford to [?] concerning British prisoners of war, sent to Philadelphia just as the British were evacuating the city, who were sent to New Jersey
582. May 28, 1778 [589]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Boudinot at Camp, concerning matters of supplies for prisoners of war
583. May 30, 1778 [591]  
Letter from William Nichols and son at Reading to Bradford, requesting that enclosed letters be forwarded by the earliest Flag

584. June 2, 1778 [592]  
Letter from James Johnson, prisoner-of-war at New Jail, to Bradford, seeking to be released from this “*dismal*” prison, promising to work at anything, including “*the Invalid Service*”; stating that he had never intended to fight on the British side, but had unfortunately gotten wounded and captured
585. June 5, 1778 [594]  
Receipt of monies from Bradford for 3 named prisoners of war, with a note that “*The 210 Continental Dollars for Major W<sup>m</sup>. Dark, never came to my Hands*”; signed by L. Kerns [?] Associate Deputy Commissary of Prisoners  
[**Note:** Most of this money was to be paid in “**Half Joes**”, British coins valued at 18 shillings each.]
586. June 13, 1778 [594]  
Receipt of money from Bradford at Valley Forge for 3 named prisoners of war at Long Island, some to be paid in Half Joes; signed by George Tudor
587. June 15, 1778 [595]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to Bradford at Camp, concerning supplies for prisoners of war and the improvement in their lives when they are released from prison
588. June 27, 1778 [597]  
Letter from Joseph C. Fisher, an American at Snow Hill, Maryland, to Bradford, requesting that he forward via William Grimes news of the locations of the British and American armies, the situation in Philadelphia, and other “*intelligence*”, for the benefit of himself and other Americans in the area  
[**Note:** **Snow Hill, Maryland** is today a small, land-locked town in the Eastern Shore of Maryland, not far from today’s Ocean City and a long way from Baltimore. Its leaders must have been worried that, with the British evacuation of Philadelphia, finalized on June 18, the contending armies might move south. Why they decided to direct their request for information specifically to Bradford is not clear. See also document 590.]
589. June 22, 1778 [597]  
Receipt dated at Boston for payments by Colonel Burey to Sarah Chadwell for board totaling £41.8.0 plus £0.14.0 for making 14 pairs of stockings for a grand total of £42.2.0 [How this receipt relates to the Bradford family is not clear.]
590. June 27, 1778 [598]  
Letter from William Pollard at Snow Hill, Maryland to William Bradford in Philadelphia or, in his absence, to Thomas Bradford, seeking confirmation, on behalf of himself and other American merchants in the vicinity of Baltimore, of news rumors of military movements and the situation in Philadelphia [see the note after document 588]

[**Note:** Sometime in June 1778, Bradford seems to have been transferred from “Camp” to Philadelphia, where he lived and served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for most of the remainder of the war. After having been captured by the British on September 26, 1777, Philadelphia was finally evacuated by the British on June 18, 1778. Evidently, Bradford came to Philadelphia at this time, as part of the American reoccupation of its capital city.]

[**Note:** Considerable confusion exists over Bradford’s proper title between mid-1778 and 1782. Various correspondents address him as **Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia**, as **Commissary of Prisoners**, as **Commissary of Naval Prisoners**, and as **Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners at Philadelphia**. Throughout this period his responsibilities seem to have been centered on Philadelphia and its New Jail, where, officially, he was initially a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners. However, Philadelphia was a, perhaps the, major hub of American incarceration and movement of both soldier and seaman prisoners of war, so Bradford’s position often seems larger than local. In addition, Bradford’s frequent correspondence with Commissary General of Prisoners John Beatty, and later Abraham Skinner, suggests that in practice, Beatty and Skinner used Bradford as a deputy commissary general. On October 19, 1780, Skinner officially promoted Bradford to Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners at Philadelphia, a title he retained until the end of the war (see Reel 6 document 437).]

591. June 30, 1778 [600]

Letter from John Beatty, Commissary General of Prisoners, at Headquarters at Englishtown [New Jersey, near Monmouth Courthouse], to Bradford at Philadelphia, conveying orders from General Washington that German prisoners of war be exchanged as soon as possible, with details for execution by Bradford and by Atlee in Lancaster

[**Note:** This letter was written only two days after the Battle of Monmouth was fought, on June 28. The relationship between the battle, a military draw, and Washington’s urgent order to exchange German prisoners is not clearly evident.]

592. June 30, 1778 [603]

Letter from prisoners of war Corporal Henry Abbott (along with Sergeant William Davis), of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, imprisoned in the Philadelphia Jail, to Colonel Hartley, requesting assistance to obtain parole “*in town*” [apparently meaning in Philadelphia]

[**Note:** This Colonel Hartley may be **Colonel Thomas Hartley** (1748-1800), a close friend of the Atlee, Hubley, and other prominent families in Lancaster. He and Adam Hubley Jr., the brother of John Hubley, separately wrote dramatic letters to their Lancaster friends about their military involvement in the sequence of battles from Brandywine to Germantown in 1777. See the Atlee Papers section of DLAR’s microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts in the Library of Congress), which is included in this Finding Aid, for Hartley’s and both Hubleys’ letters to Atlee and others.]

593. June 30, 1778 [603]  
Letter from Bradford at Philadelphia to Captain of Artillery Francis Proctor Jr., with orders for him to proceed with [German] prisoners of war to Princeton, New Jersey, and to deliver letters there to Boudinot or to Beatty
594. July 5, 1778 [604]  
Letter from Beatty at Cross Road [?] to Bradford, sending orders to march both British and German prisoners of war at Philadelphia northward to Elizabeth [presumably for potential exchange]
595. July 5, 1778 [605]  
Letter from prisoners of war Abbott (along with Davis) at the Philadelphia jail to Bradford, Abbott seeking to be allowed out of the jail on the same basis as approved for Davis, escorted by a guard
596. July 3, 1778 [605]  
Petition of Stephen McPherson, a prisoner in the Philadelphia jail, to [Bradford?], having been charged with and admitting to having used counterfeit state money, now seeking to be released to rejoin the American army
597. July 20, 1778 [606]  
Letter from Hannah Mills at Duck Creek [probably in Delaware] to Rachel Russel living in Philadelphia, seeking news about a female person she fears is lost at sea, and asking that she be contacted by letter through her sisters Patty Wells and Polly Correy  
[Note: Remains of historic Duck Creek Village can still be visited in today's Smyrna, Delaware.]
598. July 25, 1778 [606]  
Bill from John Ord at Philadelphia to Francis Proctor for expenses conveying British officers to Princeton totaling £37.0.10
599. July 25, 1778 [608]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Luke Townsend in the "*State Goal*" [probably the New Jail] to [Bradford?], seeking to get out on parole to pursue his possible exchange
600. July 27, 1778 [608]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Beatty at Philadelphia, promising to send German prisoners in Lancaster very soon; seeking to explain previous delays; providing other details
601. July 29, 1778 [611]  
Passport allowing five named British officer prisoners of war to travel from York, Pennsylvania to Philadelphia, to be delivered there to Lewis Nicola, Philadelphia Mayor; signed by John Hay

602. July 30, 1778 [612]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning exchanging captured privateer seamen
603. July 31, 1778 [614]  
Letter from Bradford at Philadelphia to [?] to take prisoners of war to Trenton and to pick up additional British prisoners there and take them to Elizabeth
604. July 31, 1778 [614]  
Receipt for having received from Bradford "*fifty Nine Privates & five Officers Prisoners of War, a sealed Bag of hard cash, a Role containing 3000 Dollars Conti & two Letters*" to be delivered to John Beatty; signed by Lieutenant Colonel John Grace,
605. July 31, 1778 [615]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford, with an update on the process of taking prisoners of war to Elizabeth, to go on to New York to be exchanged
606. August 1, 1778 [617]  
Record of a court martial held in Trenton under Charles Yarbrough
607. August 1, 1778 [619]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Lewis Nicola at Philadelphia, requesting that he turn over prisoners of war from York on their way to Philadelphia to Beatty or the Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in Philadelphia; explaining that Hay's passport for the prisoners [document 601] directed the prisoners in error to Nicola, the Mayor of Philadelphia
608. August 4, 1778 [619]  
Letter from Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia to [?], stating that he had given the British Commissary a receipt for prisoners of war "*left in the Hospital, to be Exchanged*" followed, on the same sheet of paper, by:  
[no date]  
Letter from Joseph Nourse [clerk of the Continental Board of War in Philadelphia] to Bradford, seeking to be informed whether British soldiers left behind in Philadelphia when the British evacuated were being reunited with their regiments
609. August 5, 1778 [622]  
Receipt of £37.10.0 in full payment for expenses taking prisoners of war to Princeton; signed by Francis Proctor
610. August 10, 1778 [623]  
Letter from Beatty at Elizabeth, to Bradford, unhappy about delays and lack of communication with him in the process of moving prisoners of war from Lancaster and Philadelphia to Elizabeth for exchange [pages of letter microfilmed out of order]

611. August 12, 1778 [625]  
Letter from [British] prisoner-of-war Richard W. Stockton at “*State Prison No. 1*” at Philadelphia to Bradford, complaining about being closely incarcerated with, he feels, no justification and requesting better treatment  
[Note: This is not the Richard Stockton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, whom the British imprisoned as a traitor between November 1776 and January 1777. Not only are the dates wrong, but the American Richard Stockton had no middle name, nor was he imprisoned in Philadelphia, nor would he logically have been complaining to Bradford about his conditions.]
612. August 14, 1778 [627]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford at Philadelphia, explaining his actions in moving prisoners of war for exchange
613. August 14, 1778 [629]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford, explaining his own actions in the process of moving prisoners of war for exchange
614. August 20, 1778 [630]  
Personal letter from Adam Boyd at Camp at White Plains [New York] to Bradford
615. August 25, 1778 [632]  
Letter from Haller at Reading, concerning the movement of prisoners of war Captain Nichols and Mr. John Lorinson [?] from Reading to Philadelphia and followed additional instructions
616. September 8, 1778 [633]  
Letter from De Wellen [?] to [?] [perhaps a German prisoner-of-war; perhaps written in German; very difficult to read]
617. September 11, 1778 [634]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the movement of prisoners and related prisoner-of-war matters
618. September 22, 1778 [637]  
Letter from Adam Boyd at Camp at Danbury [Connecticut] to Bradford at Philadelphia, including personal and news items; also including information about and request for Bradford to assist Captain Robert Duncan, late paymaster in the North Carolina Brigade
619. September 30, 1778 [639]  
Letter from [American prisoner-of-war] Abraham Parsons at New Utrecht, Long Island [now a neighborhood in Brooklyn], to his father Thomas Parsons at Waterford Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey, [Waterford Township is now in Camden County] requesting that he send money

620. September 27, 1778 [639]  
Letter from Joseph Holmes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia, at Fredericksburg, to Bradford, concerning his attempts to comply with Beatty's order to send 584 prisoners of war to Bradford; including a separate, undated note
621. October 19, 1778 [642]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford, concerning the personal situation of prisoner-of-war McKinley; concerning the movement of prisoner-of-war "*North Carolina Officers*"; concerning the delivery of powder and ball
622. October 2, 1778 [643]  
Letter from Holmes at Winchester [Virginia] to Bradford, concerning the North Carolina Officers
623. [no date] [643]  
Brief order on slip of paper to Lieutenant Campbell to "*Deliver to Mrs. Thomas Bradford all the Downs and Down stocks in the store and take his Receipt for them*"; signed by William Bradford
624. November 3, 1778 [644]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford at Philadelphia, containing news of the enemy and other matters of managing for the winter; followed by November 12, 1778  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford, with more instructions for managing and moving the prisoners of war
625. November 15, 1778 [648]  
Letter from Beatty at Elizabeth, to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the status of prisoner-of-war William Smith and his release from Philadelphia's Prevost Jail on good behavior; followed by November 16, 1778  
Note seeking to be placed in the care of the bearer of this message, John Loosbery; signed by William Smith
626. November 16, 1778 [648]  
Letter from P. Leull, Secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, stating that "*I subjoin an abstract from a Letter of Gen. Arnold to Congress which has been referred to the Board; and am desired to request your answer to it.*"; followed by Abstract from Arnold's letter, stating "*Having lately given several orders respecting the British Prisoners of War in Goal, and those ordered to be exchanged the Dep. Com<sup>y</sup>. of Prisoners has thought proper not only to disobey those orders but to give orders expressly contradictory*"



627. November 17, 1778 [650]  
Letter from Beatty at Elizabeth, to Bradford at Philadelphia, requesting that Bradford deliver enclosed letters from New York, with instructions
628. November 29, 1778 [651]  
Letter from Beatty at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the coming soon of Mr. Connolly to Philadelphia, bringing with him a quantity of clothes
629. December 4, 1778 [652]  
Incomplete letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning prisoner-of-war and exchange matters
630. December 15, 1778 [654]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford, thanking Bradford for delivering books and papers to Trenton; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters; concerning the accomplished exchange of prisoners at Perth Amboy [New Jersey], and other matters
631. November 30, 1778 [656]  
Letter from James Sutter to Bradford, conveying a recommendation for Samuel Carpenter to serve as a clerk in Bradford's department
632. December 1, 1778 [656]  
Letter from Samuel Loudon at Fishkill [New York, up the North (Hudson) River from New York, south of Poughkeepsie] to William and Thomas Bradford, printers at Philadelphia, concerning the supply of paper for printing
633. December 21, 1778 [657]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, concerning Bradford's printing and distribution of his newspaper, pointing out the uncertainties of delivery between Lancaster and Philadelphia; seeking advice on how to manage obtaining supplies for wives and children of prisoners of war when the soldier/husband's allowance cannot support the whole family
634. [?] 1778 [658]  
Letter from Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners, at Camp, to [?], ordering that a load of cord wood for prisoners of war be delivered up the Delaware River, under a Flag of truce, to Thomas Franklin at Philadelphia  
**[Note:** The letter's contents suggest that the date of this order was sometime between January and May 1778, probably earlier during the period, as the weather would have moderated later, somewhat diminishing the demand for cord wood.]

635. December 1, 1778 [658]  
Letter from Bradford at Philadelphia to [?] concerning speedy delivery of certain letters, requesting that *"you will please to send them by different opportunities into New York that one of them may get to hand"*
636. [no date] [659]  
Apparently a perhaps incomplete set of instructions for the constables of wards, perhaps in Philadelphia; associated in the microfilming with an address from Beatty to Bradford [actual content and context not clear]
637. [no date] [661]  
Letter from Bradford [after he had been assigned to Philadelphia in June 1778], to *"Gentlemen"* [perhaps Boudinot or Beatty?] concerning difficulties in drafting parole papers for Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly; seeking to know whether he should be referred to as a *"prisoner to the United States"* or as a *"prisoner-of-war to the United States"*  
**[Note:** This letter was written in the middle of the remarkable story of loyalist **Dr. Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly** (c. 1741-1813). Connolly was born in York County, Pennsylvania and trained as a physician in Philadelphia. Early on, he displayed his penchant for disloyal, if largely unsuccessful intriguing. In 1770 while practicing medicine in Pittsburgh, he became involved in the frontier land dispute, partly between Virginia and Pennsylvania and partly against hostile Indians, which led to Lord Dunsmore's War in 1774. Connolly sided with Virginia and got arrested and jailed briefly by Pennsylvania officials. In June 1775, after American-British hostilities had begun, he was arrested again, now as a British loyalist, but quickly escaped. In Boston, he conspired with General Thomas Gage in a plan to secure Pittsburgh and the western frontier for British rule, but his plan was leaked and he was arrested once again in December 1775 at Hagerstown, Maryland. Finally secured behind bars in Philadelphia, Connolly harassed prison officials and public leaders alike with petitions for better treatment, while scheming, unsuccessfully, to escape. When Philadelphia was captured by the British in September 1777, Connolly was out on parole, staying with a relative in York. With the British so close, Connolly was placed for safekeeping in the York jail, where he conspired with fellow prisoners to petition for better conditions in the jail. This May 1778 petition was widely publicized, reinforcing a September 1777 threat from Joshua Loring, British Commissary General for Prisoners at New York, that they would extend equally bad treatment to American prisoners of war in retaliation. This threat and petition may be what instigated this undated letter from Bradford and may help narrow down its date.

Connolly remained imprisoned, back in Philadelphia (document 627, dated November 29, 1778, might refer to “Mr.” Connolly’s return, with clothing) until 1780. On November 20, 1779, he was granted parole temporarily to nearby Germantown (Reel 6 document 97). On January 27, 1780, he made a plea for exchange (Reel 6 document 142). On June 30, 1780, he was paroled to go to New York to be exchanged for American Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel Ramsey (Reel 6 document 226; see note after this document for more on Ramsey). Reel 6 documents 232, 233, and 250 show Connolly’s willingness in early July 1780 to promise to act properly during his parolee and exchange process, followed by two final letters of harassment. The papers here do not document the consummation of Connolly’s exchange, which did not occur until October 25, 1780.

Connolly wasn’t done yet with the American Revolution, nor did his luck improve. After further unsuccessful planning, this time with General Henry Clinton, to regain Pittsburgh and the frontier for Britain, he returned to British military duty. Assigned to General Charles Cornwallis’ army in Virginia, he left Yorktown sometime before the surrender in October 1781, only to be captured by American troops, who sent him back to the Philadelphia prison until March 1782, when he finally was exchanged and sailed to England.

By the mid-1780s, Connolly was back in North America, supporting James Wilkinson’s filibuster attempts for Kentucky independence, first from the State of Virginia and then from the United States through a union with Spain (in 1770 Connolly had speculated on land on the site of modern Louisville and still hoped to settle there). After these schemes too failed, he settled down in (still British) Detroit and later moved to Montreal, where he died in 1813. (An interesting but dated reference is Clarence Monroe Burton’s article in the *American Antiquarian Society* magazine of October 1909 entitled “John Connolly: Tory of the Revolution”.)]

638. [no date] [662]  
Statement, written at the “*Male Prison Sunday Afternoon*”, that Mr. Leonard has procured a wagon and awaits receipt of the dispatches Bradford wishes to be delivered

639. [no date] [662]  
Statement, written by Richard Wescoat on “*Monday morning*”, that “you” [Bradford?] will receive of me Mr. Collins, Captain Coldwell, and Lieutenant [?] and one boy  
[**Note:** This is probably **Colonel Richard Wescoat** (1733-1825) of Mays Landing, New Jersey, northwest of present-day Atlantic City. His official position and role in the management of prisoners of war is not clear.]

640. [no date] [663]  
Statement from Benjamin Stoddert, Secretary [of the U.S. Board of War], to Bradford, instructing him to “*let Mr. Rutherford have some of the British Prisoners of War—such as he shall choose*”  
[Note: Later, **Benjamin Stoddert** (1744-1813) became the first U.S. Secretary of the Navy.]
641. [no date] [663]  
Statement from T[imothy] Matlack, Secretary to the Pennsylvania Executive Council [closest equivalent to Governor], to Bradford, concerning expanding the parole provisions for Captain Jacob Goetschens  
[Note: The secretarial duties of **Timothy Matlack** (1736-1829) in Pennsylvania were expansive. When Benedict Arnold was serving as Commandant of Philadelphia in 1778, and Matlack served as his secretary, the latter “blew the whistle” on Arnold, leading to a court martial, months before his treason was discovered. Matlack also spoke as secretary of the War Board.]
642. [no date] [664]  
Letter from Timothy Pickering to Bradford, stating that the Board [of War] has set policies about use of prisoner-of-war labor in “*factories*” [meaning places of employment]; concerning selection of a prisoner-of-war to work for Dr. Witherspoon  
[Note: **Timothy Pickering** (1745-1829) was from Massachusetts. Early in the war, he served as Adjutant General of the Continental Army. In November 1777, he was appointed to the War Office but also continued as Adjutant General until January 1778. Following the war, he served in several important U.S. national-government positions in the 1780s and 1790s, including Secretaries of State and War and Postmaster General. During the early 1800s, he served in the U.S. Congress for most of 14 years.]  
[Note: **John Witherspoon** (1723-1794) was a Presbyterian minister and president of the College of New Jersey (Princeton University) from 1768 through 1794. As a prominent patriot leader, he served in the Second Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence, and actively supported development of both the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution.]
643. [no date] [664]  
Petition of prisoner-of-war Patrick Heppany to Bradford, seeking release from prison because “*Sicknesses has lost one of my leags and am not able to do any thing where with to supply myself*”
644. [no date] [665]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] Hugh Dobbin to [Bradford?], seeking assistance to mail a packet of letters to Ireland

645. [no date] [665]  
Statement that "*Your Subscription for Recruiting the Pennsylvania Line is much Wanted, by sending it so soon as Convenient to David Rittenhouse Esq<sup>r</sup>. State Treas*"; signed by "Ye Public"  
[Note: **David Rittenhouse** (1732-1796) was a genius astronomer, inventor, clockmaker, mathematician, and surveyor. He also had an important public career, serving as from 1777 to 1789 as Treasurer of Pennsylvania and, from 1792 to 1785, as the first director of the U.S. Mint.]
646. [no date] [666]  
Statement "*Hugh gain printor At the bible & Crown in hanower, I guess New york*"; signed by Major [John] Adam [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at Elizabeth [Adam probably became Deputy Commissary in early 1779, so this letter may not be dated in 1778, as the chronology of microfilms would suggest]
647. [no date] [667]  
Statement of [prisoner-of-war in the Philadelphia jail] Thomas Bracknell of the 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment, seeking to go home "*to the Brittes*", not back to his regiment and not to stay in America
648. [no date] [667]  
Request from Thomas Prizgar to Bradford, seeking permission to take with him [under circumstances not explained] itemized supplies of bread, garden seed, beef, tubs and pails, pork, flour and earthen work
649. [no date] [669]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Peter C. Massing [?] to Bradford, explaining that he has unfortunately been captured, has skills as a clerk, is willing to work, and is seeking approval of liberty for him to work for any gentleman
650. [no date] [670]  
Note from [prisoner-of-war] Colonel Connolly on "*Tuesday morn<sup>g</sup> at 90'clock*", to Bradford, seeking liberty to send his horses into the country and to seek private lodging there
651. [no date] [670]  
Note from [prisoner-of-war] David Franks to Bradford, seeking a pass to go into the country
652. [no date] [672]  
Note from Lieutenant Lewis on "*Saturday noon*" seeking a favor
653. [no date] [672]  
"*Inventory of Sundries found in Capt<sup>n</sup> Matthews Chest*"

654. [no date] [673]  
 Letter from “a *whig*” [i.e. patriot] to Bradford, requesting anonymously [using Quaker terms] that something be delivered to Mr. Martin, who will pay for them “and deliver them to the person who gives you this Trouble”; followed by Note by [Major] A[braham] Skinner [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at “*Morris Town 20<sup>th</sup> I am now on my way to H<sup>d</sup> Q<sup>s</sup> will be Obliged to you to Comply with my friend’s request above mentioned.*”  
**[Note:** The Continental Army’s winter headquarters was at Morristown, New Jersey during the winters of 1776-77, and 1779-80 but not during either end of 1778. This letter was likely written in 1780. **Major (later Colonel) Abraham Skinner** (c. 1753-1835) was Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Goshen, New York in 1779. By 1780, he was working in the same position at Elizabeth and at “Headquarters.” On September 15, 1780 he was appointed Commissary General of Prisoners, succeeding John Beatty. He remained in that position until August 1782.]
655. [no date] [674]  
 Letter from Skinner to Bradford at Philadelphia, reporting that he has been to New York, has seen the prison ships, has talked with [Loyalist] David Sproat, Commissary of Naval Prisoners in New York, and finds that he is finally willing to identify all the American prisoners of war from Philadelphia, and is ready to arrange an exchange of seamen; concerning other matters, and expressing a feeling that New York might be evacuated soon by the British  
**[Note:** Given the context, this letter may have been written early in 1780. Sproat became Commissary of Naval Prisoners in very late 1779 or very early 1780. Early optimism about him in this position quickly evaporated, as did hopes that the British might evacuate New York.]
656. [no date] [677]  
 Apparently incomplete letter from [Thomas Franklin?] to [Bradford?], concerning supplies for prisoners and other prisoner-of-war matters
657. [no date] [678]  
 Letter from Beatty at Philadelphia on “*Saturday Morn<sup>g</sup>.*” to Bradford, concerning the moving of prisoners of war and their baggage from Frederick [Maryland to Philadelphia?]
658. [no date] [680]  
 Note from Captains Mure and Campbell at [?] Tavern on “*Tuesday Mor<sup>g</sup>.*”, presenting themselves to Bradford, “*with the enclosed letters which they beg be will be good enough to send in to the British Lines*” [microfilmed twice]
659. [no date] [682]  
 Second page of letter from Father Fayo [?] to [?], part of a strong political statement against Whigs [i.e. American patriot revolutionaries] in any form

660. [no date] [683]  
 Personal letter from Ann Manjans to “*My Dear Husband*” late First Lieutenant of the sloop Europe Mathew Manjans, prisoner-of-war at Philadelphia, sent via “*Captain Harri with 3 Guineas*”, including an attempt, using the 3 guineas, to help induce Sproat to get her husband freed [the discrepancy of his being a prisoner in Philadelphia and perhaps being freed by Sproat is not explained]
661. [no date] [685]  
 Letter from [?] to “Sir”[?], beginning “*Your insulting letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> reached me this day*”, concerning a list of 185 sick prisoners of war; asking the letter’s recipient “*but pray how many have you murdered & how many have you sent out in a much worse situation*”?; making other complaints against the way British officials have dealt with opportunities for exchange [a two-page, unsigned letter, with several lines crossed out and edited, suggesting that this was perhaps a draft not delivered, perhaps written by Bradford]
662. [no date] [687]  
 Letter from [prisoner-of-war?] Joseph Carlitz to Bradford, requesting that an enclosed letter be forwarded to New York
663. [no date] [688]  
 Lower portion of one-page letter from Secretary Stoddert of the Board of War to [?], with orders concerning Skinner and a message to be delivered to him
664. [no date] [688]  
 Note dated “*Tuesday morn<sup>g</sup>*” from Mr. Swannick [?] to Bradford, concerning letters to be forwarded for a number of named prisoners of war
665. [no date] [689]  
 One-page portion of a letter with both previous and following pages, from [Bradford?] to [?] containing complaints apparently about the treatment of and exchange of American prisoners of war
666. [no date] [690]  
 Letter from Captain [George?] Parker to Bradford, concerning [prisoner-of-war?] Herbard Mathis, and a house in Philadelphia owned by Mr. Brannon
667. [no date] [691]  
 Letter from Mary Condey to Bradford, concerning one of Burgoyne’s soldiers now captive in Philadelphia, hoping that he can remain there for some time longer because he is “*in Very low Surcumstances*”
668. [no date] [692]  
 Copy of Captain Thomas Bradford’s Company debit account with the United States, itemizing transactions totaling £48.13.4, calculated to be equivalent to “*113<sup>30</sup>/<sub>90</sub> Dollars*”; signed by William Ramsey

669. [no date] [693]  
Bradford credit account with closing value of 921,000 [dollars]
670. [no date] [693]  
Receipt for 14 shillings paid by Bradford to Nathan Loring for cattle and horses
671. [no date] [694]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war John Andrews, Sergeant in the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, at the New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford, seeking a few days of liberty
672. [no date] [694]  
Account of Skinner debits against Bradford credits in dollars [presumably relating to prisoner-of-war, not personal, expenses]
673. [no date] [696]  
Incomplete letter from a prisoner-of-war to [Bradford], seeking parole [with bottom of page missing]
674. [no date] [697]  
Note of delivery of 20 German prisoners of war from Easton to Bradford at Philadelphia
675. [no date] [697]  
Letter from Beatty, dated "Tuesday Evening", to [Bradford?] concerning movement of prisoners of war to Elizabeth, including those not yet arrived from Lancaster
676. [no date] [698]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Charles Snead of the 9<sup>th</sup> King's Regiment, at Accomack County [?], Virginia, to [?], seeking assistance because he is in a "*very disagreeable state*" while on parole and unable to arrange his parole [probably Accomack County, Virginia, located on the Eastern Shore]
677. [no date] [699]  
Letter from [?] to Bradford, concerning trying to travel by water to Philadelphia; describing the difficulties with details
678. [no date] [699]  
Letter from [probably a prisoner-of-war?] to General Benjamin Lincoln [content difficult to read] [see the note after document 679]



679. [no date] [701]  
 Letter from [British] prisoners of war James Hanley and Michael Griffin to Lincoln, with attached notes [written by ?] concerning the untrustworthy status of the two, Griffin described as a “*deceiver*” and Hanley as appearing “*to lie*” in describing his past, which actually included involvement in the battle for Charleston and was captured at Cowpens  
**[Note:** Since Charleston’s siege ended in August 1780 and the battle at Cowpens occurred in January 1781, the notes and probably this letter date from 1781 at the earliest, not in 1778, as the chronology of the microfilmed documents would suggest.]
680. [no date] [703]  
 Note from Lewis Nicola [Mayor of Philadelphia] to [?], requesting that “*When ever you Send any requests I should be obliged to you if you would do it in more Intillagable manner as I Cannot make head or Tail of the present one*”  
**[Note:** Although found in the Bradford papers, it seems improbable that this curt note was addressed to him; his handwriting is relatively clear in his surviving manuscript letters. How it came to be in Bradford’s papers is not clear.]
681. [no date] [703]  
 Note dated “*Saturday afternoon*” from [?] to [?] concerning approval of five prisoners of war for “*leasing*” to Colonel Harrison [see note after document 693]
682. [no date] [703]  
 Note, dated “*Thursday Morning*” from John Brown to Bradford, requesting that he meet with the Board of Admiralty at their office “*tomorrow Morning at Ten*”
683. [no date] [704]  
 Letter from [?] to [Bradford?], concerning prisoner-of-war matters, listing several enclosed letters
684. [no date] [706]  
 Letter dated “*Saturday Morn<sup>g</sup>*” from Skinner to [Bradford?], concerning parole papers for the father of [?] Chapman (who “*is now at our disposal*”) to go to Elizabeth
685. [no date] [707]  
 Letter from W [?] to General George Washington, stating that “*I have the honor to mention to your Excellency that the Monk Capt Rogers bro’t into this port was the one of the Ships that lay off your plantation last Year & carried off a number of negroes from that neighborhood*”, two of whom apparently were Washington’s slave “property”

686. [no date] [708]  
Letter dated "*Tuesday Morning*" from Pickering to [?], stating that he will be occupied preparing to go to Camp; stating that the Board [of War] should continue its business without him
687. [no date] [708]  
Note from American commander Simon Gross, concerning orders for "*the two men Named on the other Side & any others that have a mind to Enter on Board the Confederacy*"
688. [no date] [708]  
Note from [prisoner-of-war] [?] Fitzsimmons to [Bradford] concerning which flag he will be assigned to sail on
689. [no date] [709]  
Letter from [?] to [?], concerning matters of prisoners of war [?]; ending after two crossed-out paragraphs, with the statement that "*Tho' I may rupture the freedom of the press be assured Sir I have ever been & still remain your friend & Humbly*" [The letter is unfinished at this point and is unsigned. Perhaps a draft? Possibly by Bradford?]
690. [no date] [711]  
Note from Joseph Phelps to [?], telling his story of financial difficulties with several dates, the most recent being February 1779, including financial transactions with a Mr. William Lynch among others [see document 692]
691. December 23, 1779 [711]  
Statement of Justice of the Peace Peter Tallman, that John Palfrey had sworn allegiance to the State of New Jersey at Burlington on this date
692. [no date] [712]  
Note that "*This William Lynch lives on shonna* [place not found on modern map] *two miles below the head of nothist* [North East River] *in Ceecel* [Cecil] *County maryland*" [see document 690] [note is written on an address sheet to Bradford as a printer]
693. [no date] [713]  
"*Instructions for Tho<sup>s</sup> Bradford Esq. Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in the American Camp*", concerning his communications with the Adjutant General's Office and specifically with Colonel Harrison; including 20 numbered, detailed instructions for the conduct of his responsibilities; signed by Elias Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners of War  
[Note: Since Bradford was appointed a Deputy Commissary on January 17, 1778, and Boudinot resigned as Commissary General on May 11, 1778, the instructions must have been written between those two dates, and probably nearer to January than May.]

[**Note:** this Colonel Harrison is probably **Lieutenant Colonel Robert Hanson Harrison** (1745-1790), a Virginia attorney, who served as General Washington's military secretary; apparently not related to the "famous" Benjamin Harrison family.]

694. [no date] [716]  
Note dated "*Friday Even<sup>g</sup> 6<sup>o</sup> Clock*" from Captain Tingley to Bradford, concerning when he will be leaving and needing to know so he can get a seat on the stage
695. [no date] [717]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Hugh Wier to Bradford, petitioning that the Board of War will approve his request for freedom and to remain in the country "*that is near and dear to me*"
696. October 16, 1779 [720]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat, concerning six prisoners of war; concerning provisions "*left with me by Mr. Israel Morris*" to be shipped to Philadelphia
697. [no date] [723]  
Letter dated "*Friday afternoon*" from Skinner as Commissary General of Prisoners to Bradford, concerning release of prisoner-of-war Henry Happle [Since Skinner became Commissary General on September 15, 1780 but was a deputy commissary before this, the letter must either have been written after that date or was written earlier with his title misstated.]
698. [no date] [724]  
Personal letter from E. Mackie to Bradford, including concerns for obtaining news from papers in New York
699. [no date] [727]  
Letter from William Wilson on a ship, at 4 O'Clock, to [?], concerning a dispute perhaps at Lancaster; concerning the guarding of prisoners of war
700. January 1, 1779 [727]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to [Bradford?], requesting returns by corps of prisoners of war at Philadelphia and at Frederick
701. January 29, 1779 [728]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to [Bradford], concerning provisions for women and children of prisoners of war and other prisoners of war matters
702. May 21, 1776 [730]  
Printed Extract of Resolution of the Continental Congress, with amendments with dates through January 23, 1779, concerning prisoners of war

703. February 12, 1779 [732]  
Letter from Holmes at Winchester to Bradford, requesting that Bradford send to him Congress' resolution on prisoners of war
704. February 13, 1779 [732]  
"Sales at Alex<sup>r</sup> Boyd & C<sup>o</sup> Vender Store" with net total value of £28.8.2
705. February 15, 1779 [734]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters [and winter encampment] at Middlebrook, [New Jersey, northwest of New Brunswick] to [Bradford?], concerning various prisoner-of-war matters, including a request for a new supply of ink powder
706. February 23, 1779 [736]  
Letter from [probably Beatty?] at Headquarters to [Bradford?] concerning prisoner-of-war matters; stating that "*I must Inform you that I am not at liberty in future to send in any prisoners without a special order from the General*"
707. March 7, 1779 [737]  
Letter from Nathaniel Gewder [?] at Freehold [?] to Bradford, concerning movements by him and others to places in New Jersey
708. March 11, 1779 [738]  
Letter from Beatty at Camp at Middlebrook to Bradford, concerning a specific exchange he is seeking to arrange; concerning bad treatment of American prisoners in "*a loathsome Prison Ship*" and the wish for "*full & impartial exchanges of all sea prisoners*"; concerning other matters about exchanges
709. March 24, 1779 [741]  
Letter from Solomon Maxwell at Christiana Bridge to Bradford, concerning delivery of six British prisoners of war on parole, including Captains John Gray, William Hagard, Thomas Marshall, Thomas Bennett, John Morrison, and James Blair; followed by  
March 27, 1779  
Note stating that prisoners Bennett and Blair had been sent on the sloop Molly from Christiana to Philadelphia, signed by Levi Hollingswood  
[**Note:** Today, the Christina River flows to the Delaware River from an area called Christiana, Delaware, southwest of Wilmington. The bridge referenced in the March 24 letter would probably have been at the head of navigation on the river.]
710. March 27, 1779 [743]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning prisoner-of-war exchanges

711. March 31, 1779 [746]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters to Bradford, forwarding "*sundry letters*" to be delivered; concerning particular exchange situations
712. April 3, 1779 [747]  
Letter from Severin Flagg at Philadelphia to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning negotiating an exchange for William Hagard now in New Jail
713. April 5, 1779 [749]  
Letter from Daniel Hughes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Maryland, at Hagerstown, to Bradford, concerning commissary matters, including appointing a deputy commissary at Baltimore
714. April 17, 1779 [751]  
Letter from Davis Bevan to Bradford at Philadelphia, expressing sorrow that Mr. Tyans [?] had been ordered to jail; vouching for his good character
715. April 8, 1779 [751]  
Receipt for having received from David Durnan seven half-joes and three guineas to send to Lieutenant Christian Condorff of the 6<sup>th</sup> Maryland Regiment now American prisoners on Long Island; signed by John Adam  
[By this date, John Adam seems clearly to be acting as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth, a position he held from 1779 through 1783.]
716. April 27, 1779 [753]  
Message from P. Soult [?], a secretary at the War Office, to Bradford at the Coffee House in Philadelphia, telling him to comply with the enclosed order of Congress respecting Dr. John Connolly; followed by  
April 27, 1779  
Order of Congress requiring that Dr. Connolly be confined in New Jail, Philadelphia, until a committee of Congress resolves his situation
717. May 2, 1779 [755]  
Letter from Beatty at the Commissary of Prisoners Office to Bradford, concerning receipt of supplies for prisoners of war and of particular sums of money for specific prisoners; concerning the disbursement of money to and other matters concerning specific prisoners; requesting a return of prisoners at Philadelphia
718. May 3, 1779 [758]  
Letter from Skinner at the Commissary of Prisoners Office at Headquarters to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning money received for prisoners of war and other matters

719. May 4, 1779 [760]  
Letter to Archibald McLean at York, Pennsylvania apparently to William Bradford, with reference to his brother, Thomas Bradford, concerning delivery of the Bradfords' *Pennsylvania Journal* to inhabitants at York
720. May 4, 1779 [761]  
Letter from [?] at St. Pierre, Martinique to [?], reporting news of the movements and battles of British warships under Admiral George Brydges Rodney, among various West Indies islands in the Caribbean Sea
721. June 4, 1779 [763]  
Letter from Richard Peters at the War Office, to Bradford, informing him that Dr. Witherspoon has permission of the Board of War to employ two prisoners of war, Alexander Shephard and Alexander Wilson, who are imprisoned in Philadelphia; ordering Bradford to "*give the necessary Directions*" in this matter  
[Note: **Richard Peters** served as secretary to the Board of War and for its administrative arm, the War Office, for most of the war.]
722. June 2, 1779 [763]  
Letter from Peters to Bradford, requesting that he inform the War Office of the location of British prisoner-of-war Sergeant Lewis of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Regiment
723. June 8, 1779 [764]  
Letter from James Devereaux [a British commissary for prisoners] at New York to Bradford, informing him that all of the American prisoners to be exchanged, according to the list received, are ready to be exchanged, except for a prisoner named Cunningham [see document 731]
724. June 10, 1779 [764]  
Letter from Samuel Inglis to Bradford, stating that he and Dr. Burke "*a delegate for North Carolina*" will provide security for Captain Gaskins to return to Virginia  
[Note: Business brought merchant **Samuel Inglis** (1745-1783) from his native Virginia to Philadelphia, where he partnered with Robert Morris and Thomas Willing in one of the city's most prestigious trading houses.]  
[Note: **Dr. Thomas Burke** (c. 1747-1783) was a medical doctor and patriot politician, serving in the Continental Congress and as Governor of North Carolina in 1781. In September of that year, the British managed to capture him. Thus, he himself learned the realities of prisoner-of-war life, although as a parolee on an island near Charleston, from which he successfully escaped in January 1782 but died the next year at home.]
725. June 13, 1779 [766]  
"*The Expences of the Guard & Prisoners Taken by the Boston & Confederacy frigates*"; itemized account totaling £442.10.9; including certification of the expenses signed by Colonel David Hall and Major Henry Fisher

726. June 14, 1779 [767]  
Permit from Baltimore County, for Stephen Spencer and William Blair of Rhode Island, having recently been captured by the English, to return to their residences, signed by William Spear, Justice of the Peace
727. June 17, 1779 [767]  
Letter from James Johnson, prisoner-of-war at New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford, requesting liberty from jail
728. June 19, 1779 [768]  
Letter from P. Soult [?], a secretary at the War Office, to [?], concerning the granting of parole to British prisoner-of-war Captain Featherstone of the 20<sup>th</sup> Regiment, as ordered by Congress
729. June 22, 1779 [768]  
Statement by Anthony Fortune of Philadelphia, providing security of \$2,000 for delivery of prisoner-of-war Daniel Troy to the New Jail on August 10
730. June 22, 1779 [770]  
Extract from minutes of the [Board of War] to Bradford, ordering that British prisoner-of-war John MacKay be permitted to go to New York "*and procure from thence in return any inhabitants of this State now a Prisoner there*"; signed by Secretary Timothy Matlack of the War Board [see document 738]
731. June 22, 1779 [771]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford, concerning exchange of American Captain Maurie Newland "& other N<sup>o</sup>. Carolina Prisoners"; noting that "*Capt. Cunningham is certainly sent to Britain in Irons*" [see document 723]
732. June 23, 1779 [772]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat at Berks [?] to [?], concerning the baggage of "*Prisoners last sent up to Captain Weatherby*"
733. July 19, 1779 [773]  
Note from Lieutenant Colonel John Taylor of the New Jersey State Regiment, at Elizabeth, to Bradford, reporting that "*The Fort at Stony Point has fallen into our hands with 500 men, a very little loss on our side*" and believing that the opposite fort may have been captured as well [see the note after document 10 for more on the Battle of Stony Point]
734. July 16, 1779 [774]  
Letter from Nathaniel Smith at Baltimore to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning several named British prisoners of war

735. July 17, 1779 [776]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat to Bradford, sending a wounded prisoner-of-war
736. July 13, 1779 [776]  
Letter from P. Soult [?], a secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, requesting to be supplied with "500 office erasers [?] (large)"
737. July 12, 1779 [778]  
Letter from Haller at Reading, asking for information on "*the Acct. of the Rations a prisoner is allowed when in Goal*"
738. July 11, 1779 [780]  
Note from John MacKay at New York to Bradford, stating that the bearer of this note is Thomas Plunkett, who has been exchanged for MacKay [see document 730]
739. July 12, 1779 [780]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, conveying a Board of War order for another Scot prisoner-of-war be allowed to work on Dr. Witherspoon's land
740. July 12, 1779 [782]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at New Windsor [New York], to Bradford, deploring that so many delays slow the exchange of prisoners; reporting not yet having received the name list of proposed exchanges provided by Captain Devereaux [see document 723]; concerning Captain Cunningham; concerning other prisoners of war
741. July 6, 1779 [784]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning exchange matters; enclosing a "melancholy" letter from Captain Cunningham
742. July 5, 1779 [786]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat, sending "*14 Prisoners and 1 Lady with her Water taken by Cap<sup>n</sup> Samuel Engason on Brig Monmoth*" plus their luggage
743. July 5, 1779 [786]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, concerning expediting the parole of Captain Featherstone to go to New York
744. July 2, 1779 [787]  
"*Inventory of goods taken out of John Bryan's Chest...believe to be plundered from some house*"; signed by Bradford



745. June 24, 1779 [788]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning movements of specific prisoners of war
746. July 19, 1779 [790]  
Extract of minutes of the Board of War, sent to Bradford, concerning Bradford's request of a militia guard to accompany prisoners of war being sent from Philadelphia to Elizabeth; the Board decided that this was a Continental matter that should not be supported by Pennsylvania alone, and therefore, recommending that Bradford, if he could not find the men otherwise, should apply for assistance to the [Continental] Lieutenant of the City of Philadelphia; signed by Secretary Matlack [see document 752]
747. July 20, 1779 [793]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war William Gaskins at Philadelphia, to Bradford, seeking parole to go to Virginia, with security guaranteed by Captain Haynes
748. July 22, 1779 [795]  
Letter from shipper John Bandfield at Bordenns [?] to the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of Congress, concerning the uncertainties of convoy sailing of international shipping; concerned about possibilities of Britain's becoming involved in military actions in relation to the Dutch and to Gibraltar
749. July 19, 1779 [795]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning a letter from Captain Cunningham delivered by his wife; concerning new prisoners arriving from the battle at Stony Point
750. July 25, 1779 [797]  
Letter from Adjutant General at Camp, M. Clarkson, at Headquarters at Philadelphia, to Bradford, sending prisoner-of-war William Patterson, whom "*the General conceived to be a Prisoner upon Parole & therefore under your direction*" so that he may be approved to go to New York
751. July 25, 1779 [798]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford, concerning prisoner-of-war business
752. July 27, 1779 [800]  
Letter from Thomas [Bradford?] at Philadelphia to Joseph Reed [member of the Pennsylvania Executive Council, analogous to Governor], requesting the Council's assistance in obtaining "*2 officers & 20 or 30 men as a Guard to go with some prisoners of war to Elizabeth Town*" [see document 746]

753. July 27, 1779 [801]  
Letter from British prisoner-of-war T. Pitcairn at Reading to Bradford at Philadelphia, seeking a replacement for his servant, who "*has taken the oath to the States*"
754. July 28, 1779 [803]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Adam Smyth at New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford at Philadelphia, seeking a favor
755. July 29, 1779 [805]  
Memorial from several Inhabitants of Sussex County, New Jersey, "*To Major Clarke, Commanding the Guard of the Prisoners taken at Stoney Point, on their March to Philadelphia*"; concerning a certain Adam Hobler of the same county who, the petitioners believe, was wrongly apprehended, seeking his release; signed by seven individuals; followed by  
July 29, 1779  
Statement by Thomas Prentice, one of the signers of the letter above, concerning Adam Hobler
756. August 3, 1779 [808]  
Letter from P. Soult [?], a secretary at the War Office to Bradford, conveying an order that prisoner-of-war Captain Edminston of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of British Guards is to remain at Mount Holly, New Jersey until he can be approved to go to Nyack [see also document 759 and Reel 6 document 11]
757. August 3, 1779 [808]  
Letter from P. Soult [?], a secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, concerning a request about the son of prisoner-of-war Dr. Connolly, an ensign in the 17<sup>th</sup> British Regiment
758. August 5, 1779 [809]  
Letter from R. H. [identity of this person is unclear; it was not Admiral Richard Howe, who was not then in New York] at New York to Bradford, requesting that prisoner-of-war William Delaplaine [incarcerated at Philadelphia] be allowed to go New York to testify in an admiralty case concerning "*the unlawful proceedings of the Capt. of Goodriches Privateers, in Boarding the Sloop Clinton of this port, and taking the Command from the Master*"; requesting that Delaplaine then be given the option of either returning to Philadelphia as a prisoner or of arranging his exchange

759. August 10, 1779 [811]  
Copy of letter from George Washington at Headquarters at West Point to "Gentlemen", concerning approval for British prisoner-of-war Captain Edminston to go to New York, seeking to be exchanged for an American Captain imprisoned by the British; followed by  
August 18, 1779  
Order conveyed by Peters at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, instructing him to attend to Captain Edminston's parole and approval to go to Elizabeth, on his way to New York
760. August 10, 1779 [812]  
Petition of prisoner-of-war William Dinsmore, private soldier in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company, 71<sup>st</sup> British Grenadiers, at New Jail, Philadelphia, seeking permission to be released to work while a prisoner
761. August 14, 1779 [812]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at West Point to William Burton, Commissary General of Naval Prisoners at New York, concerning American prisoner-of-war Captain James Robinson, who is on parole in Philadelphia and was supposed to be exchanged for British prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Sprowle, except that Sprowle cannot be found
762. August 14, 1779 [814]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at West Point to Captain Robinson, concerning the naval prisoner-of-war situation and difficulties with Robinson's exchange
763. August 17, 1779 [816]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning difficulties of transporting prisoners of war because of a lack of sufficient guards
764. August 17, 1779 [816]  
Letter from [American prisoner-of-war] Joel Wescoat [perhaps a relative of Colonel Richard Wescoat?] at Provost Jail, New York, to Joshua Ash at Philadelphia, requesting 10 pounds to help relieve his "*distress*"
765. August 17, 1779 [818]  
Personal letter from Eleazer Miller at Morristown [New Jersey] to Bradford, concerning communicating with their mutual friend John D. Mercier "*at Stamford, to be left at the Post Office at Danbury, Connecticut*" [for more on Mercier, see note after document 534]
766. August 18, 1779 [818]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at West Point to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning certain prisoner-of-war matters; stating that "*it appears, things are in much Confusion & disorder*"

767. August 18, 1779 [820]  
Letter from Hannah Morman, connected to the 17<sup>th</sup> British Regiment of Foot, concerning her sickness during her confinement in the New Jail, Philadelphia; seeking approval for "*Liberty to walk out once or twice a week*"
768. August 20, 1779 [821]  
Personal letter from William Rorison to "*Jamie*" James Kurr, [perhaps a American prisoner-of-war], who has been seen in New York; attempting to communicate with him and sharing news, but having received no responses
769. August 19, 1779 [821]  
Letter from British prisoner-of-war Joseph Prichard at Philadelphia to [Bradford], seeking for "*me & my [sick] wife Liberty to go to New York*"
770. August 20, 1779 [826]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at West Point to Bradford, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters
771. August 22, 1779 [829]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning clothing for British prisoners of war captured at Stony Point
772. August 23, 1779 [829]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning a letter that needs to reach Major [Joshua] Mersereau as soon as possible; explaining that Mersereau is wanted immediately at Headquarters to help resolve confusion at Rutland; asking Bradford if he knows Mersereau's whereabouts and asking him to forward the letter to him if possible [see note after document 425 about the three Mersereau men, two brothers and a son, who were active in not only prisoner-of-war affairs but also espionage against the British]  
**[Note:** The confusion at Rutland was at **Rutland, Massachusetts**, located northwest of Worcester. Convention Army prisoners of war, both British and German, and perhaps other prisoners of war were held at a prison camp here, which was under the jurisdiction of Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Massachusetts.]

## Reel 6

### Itemized, Annotated Contents:

#### **Thomas Bradford Correspondence concerning British Army prisoners of war at Philadelphia (end)**

August 2, 1779 to June 6, 1783                      Documents 1-523                      [Frames 1-615]

(Source: Thomas Bradford Papers in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP) Collection 71, and/or 1676, and possibly 1036)

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. August 23, [1779] [1]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war?] Susannah Teaplay to [Thomas Bradford?], requesting assistance in getting her son and daughter restored to her  
[**Note:** In the documents in this Reel, "Bradford" refers to **Colonel Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (Deputy Commissary General** after October 19, 1780) at Philadelphia, unless identified with another first name. See also notes on Bradford's position after document 590 and on his family after document 530.]  
[**Note:** Among a number of places where the Americans concentrated incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, Philadelphia and Lancaster, Pennsylvania appear to have been the largest and busiest. Philadelphia's New Jail held large numbers of both land and marine prisoners.]
2. August 23, 1779 [1]  
Letter from [Major] John Adam, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth Town to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning baggage and clothing for officers and soldiers captured at the Battle of Stony Point [see note after Reel 5 document 10 for more on the Battle of Stony Point]  
[**Note:** Elizabeth Town is today's Elizabeth, New Jersey. Hereafter, in this Reel, the place name Elizabeth refers to Elizabeth, New Jersey.]

[**Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Elizabeth** was one of the most important locations for American incarceration of British and German prisoners of war, in New Jersey just across the harbor from New York and British military headquarters. Thus Elizabeth served as a primary conduit through which prisoners of war held by the British (in New York and Long Island) and those held by the Americans (primarily in Philadelphia, Lancaster, Reading, York, Lebanon, and Easton, Pennsylvania plus, Winchester, Virginia, and Frederick, Maryland). **Major John Adam** served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners here from 1779 through 1783. **Major (later Colonel) Abraham Skinner** (c. 1753-1835), while Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at the moving headquarters of the Continental Army, frequently worked out of Elizabeth. In September 1780, he officially succeeded John Beatty as Commissary General of Prisoners, after having assumed the responsibilities several months before. Still, he frequently worked out of Elizabeth while negotiating exchanges.]

3. August 25, 1779 [3]  
Letter written in French from L'amour d'Equeseuille to Bradford at Philadelphia, apparently a prisoner-of-war, seeking to work, stating that he can do so in either English or French
4. August 27, 1779 [5]  
Letter from John Beatty, Commissary General of Prisoners, at Headquarters at West Point, to Bradford, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters  
[**Note:** **Major John Beatty** (1749-1826) was a military man from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Captured at Fort Washington on November 16, 1776, he had been exchanged by early 1778. In May 1778, he was appointed to be Commissary General of Prisoners (and was thus promoted to Colonel), a position he held for two years, until May 1780. Following in the footsteps of the capable and popular Elias Boudinot must have been difficult. Boudinot had developed the prisoner-of-war network and system, and the correspondence suggests that Boudinot's Deputy Commissaries did not respond so positively to Beatty. After the war, Beatty moved to New Jersey and into politics, serving in sequence on the New Jersey Legislative Council, the Continental Congress, the New Jersey General Assembly as Speaker, as U.S. Representative, and as New Jersey Secretary of State.]
5. August 27, 1779 [7]  
Letter from prisoners of war Alexander McLaughlin, John McKensey, and John Cameron, privates in the British 71<sup>st</sup> Grenadiers, to Bradford, seeking to be given liberty to work outside the jail
6. August 28, 1779 [8]  
Letter from Timothy Pickering at the War Office, to Bradford, stating that certain prisoners are being sent to be incarcerated in the New Jail, Philadelphia, and others are being sent through Philadelphia on parole to Reading [Pennsylvania]

**[Note: Timothy Pickering** (1745-1829) was from Massachusetts. Early in the war, he served as Adjutant General of the Continental Army. In November 1777, he was appointed to the War Office but also continued as Adjutant General until January 1778. Following the war, he served in several important U.S. national-government positions in the 1780s and 1790s, including Secretaries of State and War and Postmaster General. During the early 1800s, he served in the U.S. Congress for most of 14 years.]

**[Note:** Besides major prisoner-of-war facilities at Philadelphia and Lancaster, **Reading** was one of several other locations where Americans maintained facilities to incarcerate British and German prisoners of war. Others in Pennsylvania included York, Lebanon, and Easton. Beyond Pennsylvania, prisoners of war were incarcerated at Winchester, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland, and Elizabeth, New Jersey.]

7. August 29, 1779 [10]  
Account of expenses paid by Captain John Patten while marching prisoners of war from Jervis Town [probably Port Jervis, New York, at the Delaware Water Gap] to Dover [probably Dover, Delaware, south of Wilmington near the Delaware River], listing 12 prisoners, for total expenses of £25.17.6; sent to Bradford at Philadelphia for payment by the United States
8. August 29, 1779 [12]  
Letter from Continental Army Lieutenant Colonel John Taylor of the New Jersey State Regiment to Bradford, sending New York papers plus information on movements of British troops, reporting that "*I think from good authority that the main Body of [General Sir Henry] Clinton's Army is to embark for the southward this season*"
9. August 2, 1779 [13]  
Letter from British prisoners of war [John] Champney and [Alexander] Tweed, seeking to be released from the order not to leave their living place; seeking full parole [see parole documents for these two in Reel 5 documents 174, 175]
10. September 1, 1779 [14]  
Letter from Major Abraham Skinner, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth, to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that Skinner is now serving temporarily at Elizabeth in lieu of Major John Adam, who is ill; conveying prisoner-of-war news
11. September 3, 1779 [16]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, conveying news of Captain Edminston's parole being approved, and that [William] Burton, [British Commissary General of Naval Prisoners at New York] had sent [American] 92 prisoners [for exchange] plus a Negro; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters [on Captain Edminston, see also Reel 5 documents 756 and 759]

12. September 13, 1779 [18]  
Letter from Benjamin Stoddert, Secretary of the Board of War, to Bradford, conveying an order that 10 prisoners are to be assigned "*to work for the United States*"  
[Note: **Benjamin Stoddert** (1744-1813) may have followed **Timothy Matlack** (1736-1829) as Secretary to the War Board. Later, Stoddert became the first U.S. Secretary of the Navy.]
13. September 13, 1779 [18]  
Letter from John Mitchell at Philadelphia to Bradford, requesting that carpenter prisoners of war be allowed to work to cut wood for the public good at Pennsbury Manor [near Bristol, Pennsylvania, grounds of William Penn's house in America from 1683 to 1701, which still stands]  
[Note: The letter writer is **Colonel John Mitchell** (1741-1816), who served between 1778 and 1780 as Deputy Quartermaster General of the Continental Army.]
14. September 14, 1779 [19]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Walter Stuart to Bradford, seeking liberty to work outside the prison
15. September 15, 1779 [20]  
Letter from John Clark at New York to Bradford at Philadelphia, enclosing a communication to be delivered, at the request of Samuel Dewes
16. September 15, 1779 [22]  
Letter from Patten at Dover [Delaware] to Bradford, enclosing an additional account of expenses for marching prisoners of war from Port Jervis to Dover [account not microfilmed here]
17. September 16, 1779 [23]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Andrew Rutherford of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Grenadiers at Lancaster to Richard Peters at the War Office at Philadelphia, seeking permission for his servant Donald Crawford, captive in the Philadelphia jail, to be transferred to be with Rutherford at Lancaster; with note at bottom by Peters, ordering that Bradford grant this permission  
[Note: The largest and busiest facilities where the Americans incarcerated British and German prisoners of war were at Philadelphia and **Lancaster**.]  
[Note: **Richard Peters** served as secretary to the Board of War and for its administrative arm, the War Office, for most of the war.]



18. September 16, 1779 [25]  
Letter from American prisoner-of-war Captain Thomas Parker of the 9<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment, imprisoned at Flatbush, New York, having been captured at the Battle of Germantown, now destitute, "*distressd*" and "*now counted & treated as a Rebel*", acknowledging, as a gentleman, receipt of £18.15 in assistance to his wife, whom he believes is in Philadelphia
19. September 17, 1779 [26]  
Letter from [?], American prisoner of war at the Provost Jail at New York, to his brother, seeking further assistance while imprisoned
20. September 20, 1779 [28]  
Order from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, to deliver six named British prisoners of war to the quay of the ship Bayard & Irwin
21. September 18, 1779 [28]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war William Hambleton, a soldier in the General's Company, 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, at the New Jail, Philadelphia, to [?], seeking to be released for work; listing his skills
22. September 20, 1779 [29]  
Record of a meeting of the War Board attended by Pickering and Peters, sent to Bradford at Philadelphia, including a recommendation that Menj [?] Garanger be appointed Captain in the "*Line of Artillery of the United States*"
23. September 22, 1779 [30]  
Extract from minutes of a meeting of the Pennsylvania Executive Council [equivalent to the stage governor] at Philadelphia, concerning a petition from Colonels Robert Lollar, George Smith, and Archibald Thompson on behalf of Major Wright, an American prisoner held by the British; transmitting the petition to Bradford and seeking his action to get Wright released "*as a Citizen, he not being taken in Arms*"
24. September 24, 1779 [32]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that he release to George Harris of New Jersey four British prisoners of war in the New Jail; stating that "*He is to be accountable for them, & to deliver, them when called for*"
25. September 22, 1779 [32]  
Letter from Matthias Comer at Philadelphia to Bradford, requesting assistance in returning to Comer his property, "*Negro Cato*", who ran away in 1776 to New York and whom he believes is now "*waiting on an officer*" who is a British prisoner in New Jail, Philadelphia

26. September 24, 1779 [33]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning unsuccessful attempts by some states to keep prisoners of war and arrange their exchanges, but that the British authorities have recognized only Beatty and his deputies to negotiate exchanges
27. September 24, 1779 [35]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at West Point to Bradford, concerning the exchange of marine prisoners of war, including some individual cases; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
28. September 26, 1779 [38]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war [?] to Bradford concerning obtaining money for him
29. September 27, 1779 [40]  
Letter from John Hall of Cecil County, Maryland, to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning his prisoner-of-war son, whom he hopes can be paroled and exchanged
30. September 28, 1779 [42]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, requesting action to compensate Joshua Vaughn, jailer at Chester [Pennsylvania] because "*he has had a vast deal of Trouble with Prisoners of War at Chester*"
31. September 28, 1779 [43]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that "*twenty German prisoners of war (such as he shall select as trusty men) to enable him to fulfil his contract to supply wood to the public*"
32. September 30, 1779 [44]  
Commission by Governor of British East Florida Patrick Tonyn to William McLeod to become captain of a company in the newly created volunteer Florida Battalion, under the command of Colonel John Moultrie
33. October 4, 1779 [45]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that Bradford submit a "*return of all the prisoners of war in your district, distinguishing their ranks and corps & whether of the land or marine department*", and also identifying those released from jail "*for public or private service*"
34. October 2, 1779 [45]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, ordering that Bradford deliver "*four Hessians to [Major] General [Thomas] Mifflin he to be accountable*"

35. October 4, 1779 [47]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to deliver seven named officer prisoners of war, along with their eight servants and their baggage, to Reading; also delivery of a German tailor named Kohler, now imprisoned, to Major Stein, who is accountable for him
36. October 5, 1779 [47]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, concerning a number of German prisoners of war, who are to be kept in the Work House; ordering that they “*be provided for as if they were in the State Prison*”
37. October 5, 1779 [49]  
Letter from Judge Advocate [?] Muller at Philadelphia to [?], ordering that rations for servants of German officers should be treated “*according to the resolves of a board of war*”
38. October 5, 1779 [50]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat to [Bradford], concerning supplies for German prisoners of war  
[Note: This is probably **Colonel Richard Wescoat** (1733-1825) of Mays Landing, New Jersey, northwest of present-day Atlantic City. His official position and role in the management of prisoners of war is not clear.]
39. October 7, 1779 [51]  
Letter from J. Heltzheimer at Philadelphia to Bradford, offering to employ two German prisoners of war trained as blacksmiths to do work for the benefit of “*The Continent*”; followed by  
October 9, 1779  
Order from Stoddert at the War Office, stating that “*The Board desire you will comply with the above*”
40. October 9, 1779 [52]  
Letter from John Mitchell to Bradford, requesting that Bradford “*give an order for Sargent Miller to get Twenty Hessian Prisoners to go to cut wood*”
41. October 7, 1779 [52]  
Letter from B. Madden, a secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, ordering him to give George Harris four German prisoners to work at a salt works
42. October 9, 1779 [53]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, ordering Bradford to deliver four named German prisoners, two carpenters and two smiths for work; stating the intent to keep a record by name of all German prisoners and of where they are located

43. October 11, 1779 [53]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Abraham Ruttan at the New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford, reiterating a previous petition stating that he and George Gowns had been taken from their homes and forced to enlist in the British army; seeking to take the oath of allegiance to the United States and be freed from prison
44. October 11, 1779 [54]  
Order from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, for Bradford to deliver a German prisoner-of-war to Captain Baum
45. October 12, 1779 [54]  
Personal letter from Alice Paul at Philadelphia to her brother, with family news, including that their brother John has become a prisoner-of-war, taken at Bolersbrook [?]
46. October 11, 1779 [55]  
Possibly incompletely microfilmed letter from John Adam to Bradford, concerning prisoner-of-war matters
47. October 12, 1779 [56]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning parole for British prisoner-of-war Captain Fegan to go to New York, seeking to be exchanged for American prisoner-of-war Captain Munro; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
48. October 12, 1779 [57]  
Letter from British prisoner-of-war John McDonald to [Bradford?] expressing his distress and deplorable situation after having been imprisoned for a long time without exchange; hoping to be exchanged soon
49. October 13, 1779 [58]  
Letter from Samuel Kimble at Mount Holly [New Jersey] to Bradford at Philadelphia, enclosing the bond he had promised to send, to get Colonel Thomas Meybery out of prison
50. October 13, 1779 [59]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, stating that the War Board had decided that "*Messrs. Christian and Wright merchants, taken on board a prize, in which they were passengers, should be released from prison & put on their parole at Germantown, or some other suitable place in the country*"; ordering Bradford to comply
51. October 13, 1779 [60]  
Account from Thomas Clark, jailor at Newcastle [Delaware], to Bradford, seeking payment to Captain George Garland for keeping two named prisoners of war in jail from September 24 until October 13 [microfilmed twice]

52. October 15, 1779 [62]  
Order from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, that Major Boyd should be permitted to take Vernon Wright, a German prisoner now in the hospital, for John Beard
53. October 15, 1779 [62]  
Order from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, that Mr. Robertson should be permitted to take three named African prisoners "*for Mr. [Richard] Peters & three others for himself*"
54. October 14, 1779 [62]  
Resolution of the Marine Committee [of the War Board] that Thomas Leirce [?] of New Hampshire, a prisoner in Philadelphia, be discharged; signed by John Brown, secretary
55. October 13, 1779 [63]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford?], ordering that prisoner-of-war Thomas Bengy be granted parole to go to Bladensburg, Maryland
56. October 15, 1779 [63]  
Letter from Stoddert to Bradford, ordering that Noose [?] L. Chambers have two German prisoners with the "*usual engagements*"
57. October 15, 1779 [64]  
Notice from Skinner at Elizabeth that [British] Captain John Palfrey "*has lately been taken by a Party of our Troops at this Post. he is the Brother of Col<sup>d</sup>. William Palfrey Pay Master General of the forces belonging to the United States of America*"; appreciating any civility shown him
58. [no date] [64]  
Notice from Skinner that "*Captain John Palfrey of the [British] Sloop Neptune being a Prisoner-of-war on Parole has permission to pass to Philadelphia with his Baggage and Effects*"
59. October 17, 1779 [66]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war John Atkinson at New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford at Philadelphia, seeking liberty, since he is "*entirely out off money*", to try to "*See if I can get any person to take a Bill on New York*"
60. October 17, 1779 [68]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning John Palfrey, who is at Elizabeth, and worrying that this post is dangerously exposed to the British

61. October 20, 1779 [70]  
Letter from Amelia Taylor at Philadelphia to Bradford at Philadelphia, telling the story of Godfrey Snyder, who had been a prisoner-of-war servant to a German soldier killed at Red Bank, after which the Taylors "hired him"; he later got a pass to Lancaster but was unable to find employment and, wanting to return to Germany, tried to go to York without a pass, was apprehended and jailed, and now the Taylors want to get him back in their household; seeking Bradford's assistance
62. October 21, 1779 [72]  
Letter from [prisoner] Donald Waters at Philadelphia to Bradford, seeking Bradford's assistance in allowing Waters' son to visit him while he is seriously ill and in bed
63. October 22, 1779 [73]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that if there is a German miller among the prisoners of war, he be allowed to work for John Leshner, who will be accountable for him
64. October 25, 1779 [73]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that "*Col Patten have six Scotch Prisoners & a boy*"
65. October 22, 1779 [73]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that Joseph Ellis have Wiegand Dirlan, a German prisoner in the hospital "*he giving the usual Security*"
66. October 23, 1779 [74]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that Christian Shause have thirty German prisoners, none of which are to be tradesmen
67. October 25, 1779 [74]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that John Everly have John Tinner [?], a German prisoner
68. October 25, 1779 [75]  
Letter from Beatty at Newburgh [New York] to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that the British now owe America prisoners in exchange more than the Americans owe the British, so Bradford is told to keep all prisoners
69. October 26, 1779 [77]  
Letter from John Cobb at New York to Bradford, informing him that "*Cap<sup>t</sup>. Dall is discharged and comes to Philadelphia...he brings with him likewise a boy*"

70. October 26, 1779 [77]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering that all prisoners of war "*dispersed about the Town*" [of Philadelphia] be taken back and confined and not be let out without orders
71. October 27, 1779 [77]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia requesting that Colonel Mitchell be given "*three British Prisoners of the 17<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>.*"
72. October 25, 1779 [79]  
Note from Paine Newman at Philadelphia to [Bradford?], requesting that a British prisoner-of-war, John Couple, who has been bailed out, continue to be allowed to work for Newman
73. October 28, 1779 [80]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that James Boyce have a German prisoner from the hospital
74. October 27, 1779 [80]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, ordering that 12 German prisoners be made available for employment at the "*Works at Carlisle*"
75. October 30, 1779 [80]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering that Colonel Blaine have seven German prisoners "*for Public Service—no Tradesmen*"
76. October 30, 1779 [81]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to take Sergeant Ruben[?]'s parole to go to Reading to Colonel Hyman
77. October 30, 1779 [81]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, ordering that he provide work for prisoner-of-war Ignatius Sneider of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment since he is married in Philadelphia and has a family to support
78. October 30, 1779 [82]  
Letter from Pickering to Bradford, informing him that the arrest of prisoner-of-war Captain Woodbury was perhaps not proper because of personal circumstances; suggesting that his breaking of parole was not "*wanton*"; therefore, requesting that he be allowed to return to his lodging and remain in his former parole status
79. October 30, 1779 [84]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to Bradford at Philadelphia, asking him to forward letters from Joel Wescoat [perhaps a relative of Colonel Richard Wescoat?], American prisoner-of-war in the Provost prison in New York; requesting that a return of prisoners at Philadelphia be sent to Beatty

80. October 31, 1779 [86]  
Letter from Archibald Ritchie on the Rappahannock River in Virginia, to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that “a *Negro Man Named Abraham and belonging to me was in your Goals as a prisoner-of-war*”, requesting that he not be exchanged “before you heard from me”; containing additional details about the situation
- Note:** November and December 1779 correspondence is microfilmed here substantially out of chronological order. Most of the November’s correspondence is found, microfilmed roughly from latest to earliest, in documents 86 through 112, with early November dates in documents 81 and 92. December begins, more or less in chronological order, in document 113, with various earlier December dates scattered in with November dates in documents 83 through 91.
81. November 2, 1779 [89]  
Personal letter from David Sproat at New York to “*Dear Davie*” David Dewar at Philadelphia, concerning the distress of his family because of the “long captivity” of Captain Palfrey, whom Sproat is seeking to be exchanged; offering advice concerning several trades and businesses for Davie’s consideration; including additional personal matters
- [Note: David Sproat** was a New York loyalist who, within days or weeks after this letter, was appointed to be the **British Commissary of (American) Naval Prisoners at New York**. Just as he was about to start his new responsibilities, he already had a sense of concern and some knowledge about the prisoner-of-war system, as revealed in this letter, which appears to have been written as a private person. As Commissary of Naval Prisoners, Sproat quickly earned a negative reputation among Americans, partly because he was a loyalist and partly because he was blamed personally for the ill treatment of captured American seamen in New York. He may have been vindictive toward his prisoners, but the limits of his abilities to properly house, feed, and keep his prisoners healthy certainly made it impossible for him to be well-liked. Sproat served in this position until nearly the end of the war.]
82. November 3, 1779 [92]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, informing him that prisoner-of-war Henry Abbott has permission of the War Board to travel to New York to work there as a harness maker; ordering that Abbott be given the needed papers
83. December 6, 1779 [92]  
Letter from five named “*Inhabitants and Neighbours*” to “*Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Bradford and Francis*”, requesting that charity be provided to their neighbor Conrad Vanhold, who is unable to care for himself or his family because of illness; signed also by John Smith and John Campbell, Overseers of the Poor, at Christian’s Alley [in Philadelphia]



84. December 3, 1779 [93]  
Petition of Frances Wilkens at Philadelphia, requesting financial assistance because her husband's having gone to see has left her destitute; followed by December 3, 1779  
Wilkens' signed promise to pay back \$100 to Bradford
85. December 6, 1779 [94]  
Order of Justice Isaac Woodruff at Elizabeth "*To all whom it may Concearn*" to permit Mrs. Brown, wife of British prisoner-of-war at Philadelphia John Brown, artillery bombardier, to go from Elizabeth to Philadelphia "*to her husband Unmolested*"
86. November 30, 1779 [94]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to "*Let Mr Rutherford have 3 British Prisoners Howarth Hoag & Miller to work in the Factory*"
87. November 24, 1779 [94]  
Personal note from Benedict Byron at Philadelphia to Bradford, stating that since Mrs. McGee "*has Remov<sup>d</sup> Sum Distance*" and he can no longer afford his current lodging, he has "*Stood more moderate lodging*"; hoping that this is "*convenient*" to Bradford
88. November 29, 1779 [95]  
Personal note from Janet Poraty to Bradford, concerning "*youre friend Job Rustin*", who is currently confined in the Chester jail, asking Bradford's help in getting Rustin released and cleared of the charges against him
89. November 29, 1779 [95]  
Personal letter from Macy Pailner [?] to Bradford, concerning his moving to the country and wishing to meet with Bradford
90. December 3, 1779 [96]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, with the order to "*Let Barker employ William Smith & John McCallister, Sergeants of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regt as Taylors to work for the Continental*"
91. December 3, 1779 [96]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that "*If there are any Hessian Prisoners—be pleasd to let Capt Vanker have one*"
92. November 26, 1779 [97]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] William Biggs to [Bradford], requesting permission to go out from the prison to work at his trade

93. November 27, 1779 [98]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford with the order to "*Furnish Mrs. House with a Hessian prisoner. The one who had his arm hurt cutting wood will answer her purpose*"
94. November 27, 1779 [98]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, stating that the War Board has consented to send German prisoner-of-war and surgeon Teckal along with three German sergeants to Reading "*to their officers, & remain there*"; ordering that the necessary paperwork be prepared and that these prisoners not be jailed in Reading
95. November 22, 1779 [98]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to deliver to Abel Peters and Richardson Sands prisoner-of-war Morris Peters, to be delivered to the government of the State of New York
96. November 22, 1779 [99]  
Letter from Joseph Ball to [Bradford?], requesting that John Johnston, Peter McGragar, and Adam Reedy be allowed to pledge allegiance to the United States and thus be released from being prisoners of war; vouching for their good characters
97. November 20, 1779 [99]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford], ordering him to give prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Colonel [John] Connolly parole to remain at and around Germantown and to go out for the benefit of his health
98. November 19, 1779 [100]  
Note from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to deliver two prisoners of war of the 17<sup>th</sup> British Regiment to Colonel George Nagle, who is responsible for their security
99. November 16, 1779 [100]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that he let Mr. Daniel Williams have a German prisoner, William being responsible for the prisoner's security
100. November 18, 1779 [101]  
Letter from Pickering to Bradford, stating that he trusts Captain Park and a doctor to be lodged at Captain Hand's lodge, which is inexpensive, despite Bradford's fears that Hand's is too near the river; requesting that this lodging arrangement be accepted

101. November 17, 1779 [103]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters to Bradford at Philadelphia, passing on an order from the Commander in Chief that Thomas Hopper, a resident of New Jersey, who was captured at Stony Point, be released; requesting that money be sent to him immediately so he can pay debts, as the army is on the move
102. November 17, 1779 [105]  
Letter from "T. W." [perhaps a merchant colleague] at Sint Eustatius [Dutch West Indian island in the northern Leeward Islands, southeast of the Virgin Islands] to Bradford, reporting on his efforts to have newspapers from Amsterdam and London delivered to him and onward to Bradford; commenting on their considerable cost, and wondering whether Bradford wants him to continue purchasing them after one year; concerning the difficulties now of conducting trade among the West Indian islands without getting involved in fighting
103. November 17, 1779 [107]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth, concerning negotiations with Sproat for exchange of prisoners between Elizabeth and New York, and the need for accurate returns of prisoners to accomplish these exchanges
104. [no date] [108]  
Statement by John Parks, mariner from Philadelphia, concerning the fair distribution to himself and his crew of money obtained from the sale of prize vessels captured by his "*Sloop or Cutter La Luzerne*", distribution for which Bradford is responsible
105. November 15, [1779] [109]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, concerning a prisoner-of-war named Proctor, captured at Stony Point, who is "*in a dangerous Way & wishes to be taken care of by his Relatives, out of Goal*"; stating that granting his wishes is acceptable, with cautions about how it is done
106. November 15, 1779 [109]  
Letter from Jacob Phillips, Sheriff of Burlington [probably New Jersey, near Philadelphia] to [Bradford], stating that he is holding two prisoners of war, who have no means of subsistence; requesting advice on moving them or obtaining provisions for them in his jail
107. November [?, 1779] [109]  
Note from Aide M. Clarkson at Headquarters to Bradford, requesting that "*you will be pleas'd to deliver the [?] Capt. Duncan's Sword*" by order [?] [document cut off on right]

108. November 12, 1779 [110]  
Letter from William Biggs to Bradford, repeating his request to be released to be able to work, and stating that, if his request is granted, he does not want to be exchanged; including an apparently unrelated note at the bottom of the page, probably written by Bradford, and signed by him and Robert Jewell, the keeper of the New Jail at Philadelphia, stating that "*In the front 326 prisoners of war Novembr 5—79*"
109. November 4, 1779 [111]  
Letter from Beatty at Headquarters at West Point to Bradford, still awaiting receipt of a return of all prisoners in Bradford's hands; concerning his request for \$15,000 in paper money; sending correspondence to the Treasury and to the President of Congress, which Bradford is to peruse before delivering; wishing to know why "*so many of the Pris<sup>rs</sup>. are Admitted to go at large in the City and Country Harbour for hire among the Inhabitants, it's a dangerous Practice & I am amazed it is permitted*"; requesting Bradford's assistance in sending him, from among the prisoners of war, "*a good Servant Lad who will serve for a Waiter*"  
[Note: The need for this \$15,000 is not explained, but it probably relates to the settling of prisoner debts as they are exchanged. The rate of exchange activity increased through 1780 in these papers, probably requiring increasing amounts of public money to settle debts and allow exchanges to proceed.]
110. November 4, 1779 [113]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the forwarding of newspapers and correspondence for Bradford to peruse and deliver; concerning difficulties in keeping track of the numbers of prisoners on each side available for exchange
111. November 3, 1779 [115]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, enclosing newspapers and letters from British officer prisoners to be delivered; reporting arrival of a flag of truce from New York with 30 American naval prisoners from the Philadelphia area being exchanged
112. November 2, 1779 [116]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, passing on a petition from British prisoners of war William Simms and William Page, who wish "to be allowed to work for you"; concurring that this is acceptable, if Bradford wishes them and will direct them
113. December 8, 1779 [117]  
Letter from Superintendent Officer Captain William Williams at the Yellow Springs [Chester County, Pennsylvania], Hospital to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that the doctor at the hospital has discharged German prisoner-of-war Henry Shank and is sending him to Bradford

114. December 9, 1779 [119]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning various issues of exchange negotiations with Sproat; enclosing newspapers
115. December 12, 1779 [121]  
Letter from Beatty at Princeton to Bradford at Philadelphia, expressing astonishment that he has not heard from Bradford in over two months; reiterating his requests for a return of prisoners at Philadelphia and for a waiter
116. December 15, 1779 [123]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, asking Bradford to deliver personally, as soon as possible, a complete return of all his prisoners, by corps
117. December 18, 1779 [123]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to deliver prisoners of war Cornelius Cooper, Jacob Bogart, and James Bogart, all of New Jersey, to Cornelius Reyper [?] and David Anderson, for whose security the executive of New Jersey will be responsible
118. December 18, 1779 [124]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning various matters of exchange negotiations and movements; noting that "*The Colonel [Beatty] Complains of not hearing from you these two months by past*"
119. December 20, 1779 [126]  
Letter from Jonathan Meredith at Philadelphia to Peters at the War Office, concerning the application by [prisoner-of-war] William Sherman to serve as a secretary "*for his Enlargement*"; seeking Peters' approval; followed by  
December 20, 1779  
Note at bottom of page from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, authorizing him to "*permit Sherman to Stay with Mr Meredith*"
120. December 18, 1779 [126]  
Note from Stoddert to Bradford, ordering him to "*Deliver to Mr Rutherford John Hughes, & Andrew Craig—british Prisoners*"
121. December 21, 1779 [127]  
Letter from Daniel Hale, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, previously at Albany, now at Fishkill, New York, to Beatty, seeking a favor for his sister, who is married to a man who chose to be a Tory and who recently was captured at sea and is imprisoned at Philadelphia; requesting permission for the prisoner to be allowed to go to Paramus, New Jersey, where the sister lives and is ill

122. December 23, 1779 [129]  
Receipt acknowledging receipt from Bradford of 147 prisoners of war to be delivered to Frederick, Maryland; signed by Captain William Campbell of the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia State Regiment
123. December 30, 1779 [129]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war William Nelson to Bradford, seeking parole to go to New York
124. [no date] [129]  
Note from W. Fraser, requesting that Bradford forward a letter in the upcoming flag of truce
125. January 1, 1780 [131]  
Letter from D. Hall Corinth [?] to Bradford at Philadelphia, requesting the favor of delivering a letter to John Adam
126. May 6, 1780 [131]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war William Saunders to [Bradford?], requesting a quick exchange [microfilmed a second time in frame 133]
127. January 7, 1780 [132]  
Note signed by Sergeant John Bedell, listing "*the Men that is ordered for Gen<sup>l</sup>. Thompson*", including Hector McClain, Michael McMullon, and Robert Abraham
128. "Saturday Morning" [133]  
Note from General John [?] Thompson and Colonel William Butter to Peters at the War Office, requesting three British prisoners of war to work in the farms near Carlisle; noting that "*The Men have been spoken to and are Willing*"
129. January 9, 1780 [134]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, sending various letters concerning prisoner-of-war matters
130. January 7, 1780 [135]  
Note from J Mosshing[?] to [Adam?] concerning moving six named Tories [perhaps among the letters sent by Adam to Bradford with document 129]
131. January 10, 1780 [136]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Andrew Robinson at York, Pennsylvania, to Bradford at Philadelphia, enclosing a letter, which Robinson requests be forwarded by Bradford to Beatty
132. January 10, 1780 [136]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, stating that "*Mr Rutherford have three Hessian Prisoners*"

133. January 10, 1780 [138]  
Note from Bradford to [?] requesting "*Please pay to Col Ramsey eight thousand seven hundred Dollars on Acc<sup>t</sup> of Col Skinner*"; followed by  
January 20, 1781  
Receipt for having received from Thomas Smith transfer of a loan of \$7,646.33;  
Signed by Colonel Ramsey  
**[Note:** This cannot be Nathaniel Ramsey of Cecil County, Maryland, as he was still a prisoner-of-war of the British at this time. See the note after document 226.]
134. January 8 1781 [?] [139]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering Bradford to deliver to Colonel Ramsey "*for twenty four soldiers from Captivity of the Maryland Line, four of the Virg<sup>a</sup> Line, & one belonging to the State of North Carolina*", expecting to pay \$300 for each for a total of \$8,700
135. January 10, 1780 [140]  
Letter from Andrew Robinson at York to Beatty at Philadelphia [evidently the letter referred to in document 131], requesting that, because he was ill when the order from Beatty "*for all prisoners on parole to return to New York*" and thus was not able to comply, he hopes that this situation will not be held against him in getting exchanged
136. January 16, 1780 [142]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, sending six prisoners of war "*taken last night on the Island*"
137. January 18, 1780 [144]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that the War Board has heard that "*divers of the British prisoners are suffering greatly as well in the goal as the hospital from a want of necessary cloathing & blankets*"; ordering Bradford to investigate and report on the situation immediately
138. January 20, 1780 [146]  
Extract from minutes of the Pennsylvania Executive Council, sent by Secretary Matlack to Bradford at Philadelphia, ordering Bradford to "*make a return to this board, with all possible expedition*" of all the prisoners of war held in prisons in the State, including names of officers, numbers of privates, and their locations
139. January 20, 1780 [148]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to the [Pennsylvania Executive Council ?], stating that a letter concerning the condition of distressed British prisoners of war has been received; stating that to assess the situation, a return of all prisoners is needed immediately [see documents 137, 138]

140. January 22, 1780 [149]  
Letter from Samuel Chatworth to Captain H. O'Hara at Philadelphia, concerning obtaining parole for a British prisoner-of-war taken at Stony Point named John Shannahan; reporting that he escaped but is still in the neighborhood and says he was marching to Frederick with the other prisoners; requesting that his parole now be considered and granted by Bradford; explaining that Shannahan was not really a soldier
141. January 27, 1780 [152]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Nicholas Bodkin at New York to Bradford at Philadelphia, seeking financial relief, having just missed the most recent ship to Britain and being left without resources, waiting for the next packet
142. January 27, 1780 [154]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly at Germantown, to prisoner-of-war Captain Michael Hyndman, seeking whatever help he can get to expedite his exchange
143. January 28, 1780 [156]  
Letter from British prisoner-of-war Lachlin McGuain at New York to Bradford, stating that his attempts to be exchanged for Captain Pappely had not succeeded; hoping for a positive result soon
144. March 3, 1780 [157]  
Letter from Beatty at Morristown to Bradford, sending three prisoners of war; needing Bradford's help to obtain more Continental money; note on the address sheet lists four additional prisoners of war
145. March 3, 1780 [159]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to [Bradford?], asking assistance in delivering two letters, one via Thomas Franklin in Philadelphia [ a Quaker merchant; apparently not a relative of Benjamin Franklin] and the other to Major [?] at Lancaster; closing with a note that "*We think you must be dead by your long Silence*"
146. March 1, 1780 [160]  
Letter from Silas [?] Condict at Trenton to Peters at the War Office at Philadelphia, stating that Bradford had offered "*encouragement of having Two Hessian prisoners*", which have not yet been assigned; hoping that this is still possible
147. March 1, 1780 [162]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to Bradford at Philadelphia, still trying to obtain from Bradford, at Beatty's request, a return of prisoners



148. March 1, 1780 [164]  
Copy of letter from Oliver Pollock at New Orleans to Bradford, requesting, since he is "*penned up here at the End of the World*" that Bradford send him some newspapers and the Journals of Congress "*and any other usefull or entertaining Prints from Your Place*"  
[Note: **Oliver Pollock** (1737-1823) was a Philadelphia merchant who, before the Revolutionary War, became involved in the West Indian trade, setting up his headquarters in Havana, Cuba. Later, he moved to Spanish Louisiana, living in New Orleans where, during the war, he acted as agent of the United States.]
149. March 1, 1780 [165]  
Petition from Hugh Wier, a prisoner-of-war in New Jail at Philadelphia, to the Board of War, seeking assistance for himself and his wife by his being released "*to the country*" where he can live with his wife; expressing his willingness to take an oath of allegiance to this country
150. February 7, 1780 [167]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to "*give this man a permit to go to Boston upon being satisfied that he has a wife there*"; possibly referring to Hugh Wier [document 149]
151. February 19, 1780 [168]  
Personal letter from Joshua Mersereau at Boston to "*Major*" Bradford requesting newspapers and other news  
[Note: As a deputy commissary of prisoners, Thomas Bradford was a Major. In October 1780, he was promoted to Deputy Commissry General with the rank of Colonel. By this time, Mersereau might have left his position as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Massachusetts. See the note on the Mersereau family after Reel 5 document 425.]
152. February 27, 1780 [169]  
Petition from Edward Cett [?], prisoner-of-war at the New Jail at Philadelphia, to the Board of War, seeking approval to gain his liberty to settle in this country and work as a cabinet maker and to take the oath of allegiance
153. February 19, 1780 [170]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning matters of prisoners of war and naval exchanges
154. February 17, 1780 [172]  
Letter from John Palfrey at Morristown to Bradford, enclosing an oath of allegiance, which he hopes is in the proper form

155. February 16, 1780 [173]  
Extract of minutes of the Pennsylvania Executive Council at Philadelphia, sent to Bradford, concerning his pay for his job as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, to be set at the same level as for a captain of a galley "*amounting to Ninety one pounds eleven Shillings and four pence per week*", payable back to the date of his commission; signed by James Trimble for Secretary of the Council Timothy Matlack
156. February 12, 1780 [174]  
Letter from Beatty at the Commissary of Prisoners Office to [Bradford] acknowledging receipt of \$10,000, and requesting that additional money be sent without delay
157. February 14, 1780 [176]  
Note from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, stating that "*The Bearer M<sup>r</sup>. Hartzock is quarter master to the 17<sup>th</sup> British Reg<sup>t</sup>. He has brought cloathing for the British prisoners. You will permit him to distribute the same among the prisoners in your custody*"
158. February 12, 1780 [177]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, sending [New] York newspapers; pleading that Bradford will respond quickly to Beatty's request for additional money, "*as we are really in great Distress*"
159. February 9, 1780 [178]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, stating that the War Board has approved that one of the prisoners taken at Paulus Hook be given permission on parole go to New York to raise money to support the captured officers  
[Note: The **Battle of Paulus Hook**, a British fort in what is now Jersey City, New Jersey, was fought on the night of August 19, 1779.]
160. February 19, 1780 [179]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering Bradford immediately to call in all the noncommissioned officers and privates (except Germans) living in the countryside "*or otherwise*" in hopes of their being exchanged
161. February 8, 1780 [180]  
Letter from Harry O'Hara to Bradford, concerning exchange of a prisoner-of-war
162. February 5, 1780 [181]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating the War Board has issued a permit for Sergeant McAllister of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment "*to remain here at Work with any Tayler employed by the United States*"

163. February 3, 1780 [182]  
 Letter from [perhaps David Sproat; letter not signed] at New York to Bradford, concerning difficulties with the exchange process; requesting that Bradford "*ratify this partial exchange and send no person here in future, until his exchange is first consented to here*"; including other details  
**[Note:** The date on which Sproat became British Commissary of Naval Prisoners at New York is not clear. It was sometime in very late 1779 or very early 1780.]
164. January 29, 1780 [184]  
 Letter from William Augustus Atlee, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster, to Bradford at Philadelphia, asking Bradford to keep track of Captain Darby of the 17<sup>th</sup> British Regiment of Foot while he is on parole in Philadelphia doing business; requesting that a letter be delivered to Beatty to be forwarded to New York; stating that the "*Lancaster post will begin to ride next week*" and hoping for more regular delivery of newspapers  
**[Note: William Augustus Atlee** (1735-1793) was an attorney, born in Philadelphia but lived most of his life in Lancaster. As a leading patriot, and because **Lancaster**, along with Philadelphia, became an early, major destination for British and German prisoners of war, he became involved in managing the incarceration of prisoners of war at Lancaster. He served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster from 1776-1782. He also chaired Lancaster's Committee of Safety and Committee of Inspection and Observation during most of the war years, and served as a judge on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1777 to 1791. See the Atlee papers section of the DLAR microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts at the Library of Congress), which are included in this Finding Aid.]
165. March 6, 1780 [186]  
 Personal letter from American prisoner-of-war Robert Mercer at Maidenhead, New Jersey to [Bradford?], rejoicing that he is "*once more in the land of Liberty*" and asking him to keep in touch via a certain "*Carnal Towls*"; closing with a PS that "*I have forgot to mention to you that I have my parole only for 30 Days*" and wishes to hear from Bradford quickly  
**[Note: Maidenhead** was at this time a recognized place in Lawrence Township, Mercer County, New Jersey. It may have been Robert Mercer's home. Mercer County, New Jersey was named for Hugh Mercer, who died from wounds sustained during the Battle of Princeton. Whether Robert and Hugh Mercer were related is not clear.]
166. March 1, 1780 [186]  
 Order from Stoddert to Bradford that he "*Let Col[onel Samuel] Miles have Steinbrucker [?] or Hessian Prisoners*"
167. March 6, 1780 [187]  
 Letter from Silas [?] Condict at Trenton to Bradford, requesting two or three German prisoners who "*prefer Work to confinement*"

168. March 14, 1780 [188]  
Letter from Pickering at the War Office to Bradford, ordering that prisoner-of-war Francis Dorral, now on parole, be set at liberty immediately to return to his country, St. Croix, which is a neutral nation
169. March 20, 1780 [189]  
Letter from Beatty at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, to [Bradford], thanking Bradford for sending money promptly; concerning a busy time with exchanges; enclosing New York newspapers
170. March 21, 1780 [191]  
Letter from Silas [?] Condict at Morristown to Peters at the War Office, stating that an officer of the militia, a neighbor of Condict, desired having a German stay in America and work for him, if any were being exchanged; note at the bottom from Peters sending this on to Bradford to provide the desired German
171. March 22, 1780 [192]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Corporal Thomas Leddgeth of the 71<sup>st</sup> British Regiment, in the Philadelphia jail, to Bradford at Philadelphia, declaring his allegiance to the United States; wishing to settle in this country, wishing to be released and to have the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment notified of his decision
172. March 24, 1780 [194]  
Letter from Colonel Henry Haller, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading, to [?] concerning obtaining prisoners for a lady in Reading  
[Note: A German immigrant (originally Heinrich), **Colonel Henry Haller** (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 through sometime in 1782.]
173. March 26, 1780 [194]  
Note from prisoner-of-war William Saunders in New Jail, Philadelphia, to [Bradford?] asking the favor of delivering an enclosed letter
174. March 27, 1780 [195]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] John Downing at New York to Bradford at Philadelphia, seeking to wrap up the paperwork for his exchange
175. April 1, 1780 [196]  
Letter from Beatty at the Commissary of Prisoners Office to Bradford, concerning granting parole so that Archibald Archmulty [?] can go into New York on immediate personal business
176. April 2, 1780 [198]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning prisoner-of-war and exchange matters; enclosing papers

177. April 4, 1780 [200]  
Letter from James Gregg, jailer at Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, to [Bradford] stating that two British Convention Army deserters seeking to escape to New York were in Newtown jail; seeking immediate rations for the prisoners and then for them to be transferred to the Philadelphia jail; also reporting having two British prisoners of war, both of whom had committed crimes while prisoners; seeking for them also to be transferred to Philadelphia; stating that he expected an accounting of these prisoners of war's costs, which should be covered by the Continental government, not the County government
178. April 2, 1780 [201]  
Judge's order that Angus McCoy and Robert Vickers, two of Burgoyne's troops caught trying to escape to New York, be incarcerated in the Bucks County jail until they can be transferred to Philadelphia; signed by Judge John Chapman [see documents 177 and 183]
179. April 4, 1780 [201]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Corporal Harry Abbott of the 17<sup>th</sup> British Regiment to Bradford "*Near the Coffee House*" at Philadelphia, seeking assistance with provisions for himself, his wife, and his child, which he cannot afford
180. April 11, 1780 [203]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford], requesting a report on the number of prisoners "*that have been ret<sup>d</sup> to Goal & the number that still remain to be accounted for*"
181. April 12, 1780 [203]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, stating that the War Board has "*consented that Col Con[n]olly be allowed the benefit of the mineral Springs at Abington*" [located on the site of what later became Willow Grove Amusement Park and is now a shopping mall]; ordering Bradford to take the necessary steps for this to occur
182. April 12, 1780 [204]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering Bradford to send four prisoner-of-war German sergeants of [Wilhelm von] Knyphausen's Regiment with Sergeant Major Rubinkonig to Reading to be under Haller's care
183. April 15, 1780 [204]  
Court order from Thomas Chapman to the "*Constable of Upper Makefield and the Keeper of the Gaol of the County of Bucks*", concerning Samuel Watson and John Walker, apparently Convention Army deserters, requiring that the jail keeper keep them in the county jail until they can be moved to Philadelphia

184. April 20, 1780 [206]  
Letter from paroled prisoner-of-war Richard Blake at "*Stunrause near Hackinsack*" New Jersey to [Bradford?], reporting that severe rheumatism has prevented him from returning to Philadelphia on time from his parole
185. April 16, 1780 [206]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to [Bradford] concerning the four German sergeants [see document 182]
186. April 24, 1780 [207]  
Letter from Beatty at Windsor Hall, Princeton to Bradford at Philadelphia, reminding him to issue a certificate for the German servant in the Provost to be liberated to go to his employer; concerning exchange of new commanding officers and privates
187. April 27, 1780 [209]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat at the "*Forks*" [of Egg Harbor, near Wescoat's home at Mays Landing and present-day Atlantic City, New Jersey] to Bradford, sending 32 prisoners of war to Philadelphia and requesting provisions for them
188. April 27, 1780 [209]  
Order from M[oore] Furman to the Constable of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, concerning Thomas Botterlin, prisoner-of-war of the 17<sup>th</sup> British Regiment of Foot, captured at Princeton, to be retained in the county jail "*for further examination*"  
[Note: **Moore Furman** (1728-1808) was a prominent and wealthy merchant and public servant in Hunterdon County and later Trenton, New Jersey. In the 1750s he had been Sheriff of Hunterdon County. From 1778 to 1780 he served under Nathanael Greene as Deputy Quartermaster and Forage Master for New Jersey. He resigned from this position sometime in 1780. What position he held in April 1780 that gave him authority to issue orders for the incarceration of particular prisoners of war is not clear.]
189. April 29, 1780 [210]  
Note from Furman at Trenton, ordering four days of rations for Mr. Robeson; page includes additional penciled notes
190. April 29, 1780 [211]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that Bradford provide immediately to the War Board "*some large wafers proper for sealing commissions*" which are needed while the Baron de Kalb is in town
191. November 2, 1780 through April 30, 1781 [212]  
Account "*N<sup>o</sup> 3*" by Abraham Skinner to Bradford of amounts paid on accounts of prisoners of war for 99 named individuals, with a total value of payments of \$264,041

192. May 1, 1780 [215]  
Duplicate of itemized "*Specification of Cash and Necessaries for three Prisoners of War [Grenadier Baer, Private Uhlmann, and Private Herberich] of the Ansbach [Ansbach] Troops taken by the Enemy the 23<sup>d</sup>. of march last near Paramus [New Jersey], and lately in Goal of Philadelphia*", dated at New York
193. May 19, 1780 [216]  
Receipt for "*articles & Cash*" received from the Commissary of Prisoners; signed by three individuals [apparently those listed in document 192] of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment
194. May 4, 1780 [217]  
Note from A. Mosengeil, acting Major of Brigade to the Ansbach Troops, at New York, requesting that when the "*written sum of Cash and other Articles*" [see document 192] is delivered to Elizabeth, a receipt for them be returned to New York by the flag of truce
195. May 4, 1780 [218]  
Letter from Joseph Carleton, secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, requesting that he confer with the Board of War on "Business of your Department; also requesting that "*the British prisoner attending to the Rass [?] of the Coffee House may be immediately [?] & sent to Jail*"  
[Note: **Joseph Carleton** (1754-1812) later served under U.S. Secretary of War Henry Knox and briefly acted as Secretary of War during his absence.]
196. May 12, 1780 [218]  
Note from John Adam at Elizabeth "*To whom it may Concern*", granting permission for four named former prisoners of war to go with their baggage from New York to Philadelphia for exchange
197. May 14, 1780 [219]  
Note from Haller at Philadelphia, requesting that Bradford receive a certain pass
198. [no date] [220]  
First page of letter from [?] to "My Dearest Child", evidently a personal letter, apparently not all microfilmed
199. May 13, 1780 [221]  
Letter from Beatty at Windsor Hall, Princeton, to Bradford, expressing displeasure that he still is waiting to receive the "*Hessian you were to have sent me*"; reiterating that "*If it is practicable, I must beg you to find me a lad immediately*"; reporting on a meeting with Sproat with a proposal for more exchanges; wishing for Bradford to communicate with him and complete the tasks assigned him; with a P.S. that all of Bradford's prisoners should be prepared to be forwarded for exchange soon

200. May 10, 1780 [223]  
Letter from John Harr at Philadelphia to [?] concerning his inability to be exchanged for Captain Willkie because, according to Bradford, others were higher on the list, with news that he now hoped to be exchanged for Captain William Balt; expressing unhappiness that his exchange has not been properly accomplished yet; with a note at the end by Bradford, certifying that William Balt, master of the Dashwood Packet, has been sent to New York to be exchanged for Captain John Harr
201. May 15, 1780 [225]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning keeping even with Sproat on numbers of prisoners exchanged; concerning delivery of clothing and blankets of three prisoners plus some cash; enclosing a few New York newspapers
202. May 16, 1780 [227]  
Letter from J. Gilchrist at Elizabeth to Benedict Byrone, "*late Commander of the Brigg Bayard—Navy Prisoner in Philadelphia*"; informing Byrone that his exchange should take place soon, and that his wife and family "*are in good Health and hope to see you soon*"
203. May 17, 1780 [229]  
Letter from Silas [?] Condict at Trenton to Bradford, noting that prisoners of war she has received lack sufficient clothing; hoping that clothes may be delivered from Philadelphia for them
204. May 26, 1780 [230]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war John E. Bert at Philadelphia to Bradford, seeking an extension of his parole to a larger area, stating that he has been unable to find employment in the area to which he was first paroled
205. May 29, 1780 [231]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to [Bradford], sending to him 10 prisoners, whom the Commander in Chief ordered be forwarded "*to some convenient place and as I know of none more so than your Goal I hope you will give the necessary Order*" to incarcerate them there
206. May 29, 1780 [232]  
Letter from Blathwaite Jones at Burlington [New Jersey] to Bradford, concerning previously requested assistance in exchange of his son Gibbs, a prisoner-of-war in New York; unable to understand why he has not already been exchanged and returned to his home



207. May 29, 1780 [233]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning the ongoing difficulties with naval prisoner-of-war exchanges, working with Sproat; enclosing a few New York newspapers
208. May 31, 1780 [235]  
Letter from Silas Condict at Trenton to Bradford, responding to Bradford's request that Condict return the two Germans he has; stating that one is sick and cannot immediately be moved; wishing to keep the other until the sick one recovers
209. May 31, 1780 [236]  
Letter from Beatty at Windsor Hall, Princeton, to Bradford, concerning the difficulties of the exchange process from Elizabeth with Sproat; seeking to make sure British naval prisoners are not detained by the Commissaries from being exchanged as quickly as possible  
[Note: This is the last letter among these documents from Beatty as Commissary General of Prisoners. From this correspondence, it appears he left his work abruptly without planning or communication. Why he did this is not clear.]
210. June 1, 1780 [238]  
Letter from American prisoner-of-war John Field on the prison ship Hunter at New York to [?], having not received any response to previous pleas for help; stating that "*I am in a Weake and Low State of Health*"; hoping for quick relief
211. June 6, 1780 [238]  
Note from Stoddert to Bradford, requesting that Mr. Braggs be allowed to continue his parole in New York "*two or three days longer*"
212. June 4, 1780 [238]  
Note from Richard Wescoat to [Bradford?], enclosing a parole for Littleton Ford and a list of prisoners with him, including, sailor John Adder and Robert Norris of the schooner Lively
213. June 4, 1780 [239]  
Letter from William Pierce at [?] to [Bradford?]; concerning rejection of publication of Pierce's "*Journal*", about which Pierce is not happy, as he believes that "*They will certainly sell for 25 or 30 Dollars each*"; offering news, "*As you are a publisher of a Paper*", about the confused situation at Charleston; commenting that "*as far as I can possibly fathom the several accounts, General Lincoln & the Garrison Remain unshakened. A French or Spanish fleet at this juncture may possibly rescue them from the chains of captivity*" [second page microfilmed in Frame 240]

[**Note:** Clinton's British land and sea siege of Charleston began on April 1, 1780, and General Lincoln surrendered his troops on May 12. More than two weeks later, the news had not reached William Pierce.]

214. June 6, 1780 [239]  
Note from prisoner-of-war John Hall to [?], seeking permission to go to New York
215. June 11, 1780 [239]  
Note from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, requesting an immediate return for the War Board of British and German prisoners of war, including the individual prisoners taken by General Daniel Morgan  
[**Note:** When and where Morgan had captured these prisoners is not clear. At this time, he was between commands, having resigned from the army in June 1779 and not returning to active service until fall 1780.]
216. June 6, 1780 [241]  
Letter from John Hall at Cecil County, Maryland, to [Bradford?], stating that "*I Observed in your Last weeks Journal that my son John Hall is become your Prisoner a Second time, and as you was so Exceedingly kind to Indulge him On his parole to Visit me last fall*", therefore hoping that such a visit could be allowed again this time  
[**Note:** This letter probably was directed to Thomas Bradford. His Philadelphia family published the weekly *Pennsylvania Journal* for many years starting in 1742. After the war, Thomas himself operated the family printing business.]
217. June 6, 1780 [242]  
Letter from Skinner at the Commissary of Prisoners Office at Headquarters to Bradford, asking Bradford to prepare a parole and send the son of Colonel Connolly (an ensign in the British 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment) to New York for his education, as ordered by the Commander in Chief; awaiting news as to the status of Charleston; requesting that Bradford send all the naval prisoners he can for purposes of exchange
218. June 12, 1780 [244]  
Extract of minutes of the Pennsylvania Executive Council [closest equivalent to Governor], signed by James Trimble for Secretary Matlack, concerning a petition of Captain William Barber; passing a resolution that Barber be allowed to remain in America after being discharged from his parole and taking the oath of allegiance to the State
219. June 14, 1780 [245]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, requesting an immediate return of prisoners of war "*let out to work*"

220. June 18, 1780 [246]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to [Bradford], sending 34 prisoners of war "*the greatest part of whom were taken during the Excursion of the Enemy from Eliza<sup>n</sup> Town*", during which the British held territory for several days near Elizabeth but then were beaten by Continental forces and were expected to return to New York; commenting that "*I am much at loss to know their intention*"; hoping to hear soon about the arrival of the French fleet and army, stating that "*the Army in General are in good Spirits*"
221. June 22, 1780 [247]  
Letter from John L. Harmanor at Northampton County, Virginia, to Bradford, concerning a Mr. Pranger, who had come to Virginia from Cape Francois [perhaps Cap Français, also known as Cap Haitian, in Haiti], grew up in the printing business, and is going to Philadelphia seeking employment; recommending Mr. Pranger to Bradford
222. June 26, 1780 [248]  
Letter from John Patton at Springfield [probably Springfield, Pennsylvania, now a Philadelphia suburb in Delaware County] concerning orders to return prisoners out working but uncertain whether they may not be safer out in the countryside; awaiting Bradford's further orders
223. June 28, 1780 [249]  
Letter from John Shanahay at Cecil County, Maryland, a prisoner-of-war out working, seeking to be exchanged
224. June 27, 1780 [249]  
Note from Lieutenant Donald Stewart of the [British] North Carolina Volunteers, a prisoner-of-war at Reading, to [Bradford?], hoping to hear soon about being able to go to New York to be exchanged
225. June 29, 1780 [250]  
Letter from Skinner at the Commissary of Prisoners Office to Bradford, sending 27 prisoners, including sailors who would have been sent to New York for exchange, except that the British destroyed the flag of truce boat
226. June 30, 1780 [252]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford], stating that prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Colonel [John] Connolly is permitted under his parole to go to New York to negotiate his exchange for that of Lieutenant Colonel [Nathaniel] Ramsey.

**[Note: Nathaniel Ramsey** (1741-1817) was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania but lived his adult life in Cecil County, Maryland, where he was an attorney. He served as an officer in the Revolutionary War, rising in rank to Lieutenant Colonel. At the Battle of Monmouth (June 28, 1778), he was severely wounded and captured. He recovered while on parole as a prisoner-of-war. Negotiations for his exchange concluded successfully in October 1780.]

227. June 29, 1780 [252]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford], ordering parole for prisoner-of-war Major Baremon to go from Philadelphia to Reading "*without making the least delay*"
228. "Tuesday afternoon" [252]  
Note from William Tweed to Bradford requesting the favor of waiting on him tomorrow
229. July 1, 1780 [253]  
Letter from I. M. Wallace at Raritan [New Jersey; upstream the Raritan River from New Brunswick] to Bradford, stating that "*By a Mistake my father gave to the Hessian a Bundle Containing several things belonging to Dady*"; itemizing the things, stating that "*They were tied up in an old towel*", and requesting help in recovering them
230. July 1, 1780 [254]  
Order from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford], directing that all British officer prisoners of war be told they must wear their uniforms whenever they leave the house in which they are quartered, and those not adhering to the rule should be confined in jail; stating that the reason for the new rule has "*arisen from Prisoners indiscriminately mixing with the Inhabitants*"
231. July 3, 1780 [255]  
Letter from J. Wall, late purser on the Continental ship Queen France, to Bradford, asking that his servant be sent with "*the Waggon that goes with Commodore Whipple's Baggage*"; requesting the needed pass
232. July 3, 1780 [256]  
Letter from Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly, prisoner-of-war at Philadelphia, to [Bradford], seeking permission to be sent quickly to New York via Elizabeth, to be exchanged for Lieutenant Colonel [Nathaniel] Ramsey, as already permitted by General Washington; pledging as a gentleman to conduct himself properly; dated at the bottom July 8, 1780
233. [no date] [257]  
Note from Connolly asking that James Boodley, a marine prisoner-of-war, be sent to New York with Connolly, instead of Timothy Mulloney, a naval prisoner

234. July 4, 1780 [258]  
Letter from Skinner at Philadelphia to British prisoner-of-war Colonel Cosmo Gordon, pursuant to Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton's order that Gordon's servant, "*taken near Springfield*" [probably New Jersey] be forwarded to him; stating that the delay in complying occurred because the servant was sent to Philadelphia before Hamilton's order arrived  
[Note: This Hamilton is presumably **Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Hamilton**, at the time the Commander in Chief General George Washington's aide.]
235. July 30, 1780 [259]  
Personal letter from Alexander Stewart at Invernahyle to his son Lieutenant Charles Stewart of the 74<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, a British prisoner-of-war, probably at Philadelphia; stating that he had not heard from Charles "*since the Siege of Penobscot*"; hoping for his eventual parole and exchange; including other personal matters [two-page letter separated by document 236]  
[Note: **Invernahyle** is the ancestral home of one among many branches of the Scottish Stewart family, located on Loch Creran in County Argyll. This branch's patriarch is identified as Alexander Stewart, born about 1500. The **Siege of Penobscot** was the final stage of the Penobscot Expedition, a military operation organized and conducted by the Province of Massachusetts Bay in July and August of 1779 to obtain control over the middle Maine coast. Charles Stewart must have been among a few unlucky British soldiers, because the end result of the expedition was a great defeat for the Massachusetts Bay land and sea forces.]
236. July 28, 1780 [259]  
Note from Skinner at Elizabeth to [Bradford] stating that "*I was mistaken with respect [to] Gordon's Servant*"; asking that a man named Hugh Cameron be sent; requesting a supply of paper and money
237. August 12, 1780 [261]  
Letter from Skinner at the Commissary of Prisoners Office at Camp at Tappan to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning some prisoners captured "*under pretence of being with a Flag*", who are to be detained until further orders; reporting no "*worthy*" news but stating that they are awaiting arrival of "*the Second Division of the French Fleet at Rhode Island*" and that the army is more numerous and better supplied than at any time since Valley Forge and is in "*very good spirits*"; asking for any news from Philadelphia
238. August 13, 1780 [263]  
Letter from John Cunningham at Lancaster to [Bradford?] requesting to know the "*number of men belonging to the Nova Scotia Volunteers that are confined in Philadelphia*" so that he can "*make applications for money & Cloathing for them*"

239. August 1, 1780 [264]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, reporting on prisoner-of-war and exchange matters
240. July 7, 1780 [267]  
Letter from Silas Condict at Morristown to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that she has returned two German prisoners of war, as ordered, and that this is fine if they are to be exchanged, but stating that otherwise, she hopes they will be returned because one is sick and the other destitute
241. July 7, 1780 [269]  
Letter from Daniel Roberdeau at Alexandria [Virginia?] to [Bradford?], stating that the German prisoner-of-war he had brought from Philadelphia "*left me immediately on my arrival here*", having pled "*the privilege of a Citizen of this Stage being married to a woman of substance in it, which is a fact, but how far it will excuse him, I don't take on me to judge*"; stating his opinion that only a magistrate, a guard, and a court might get him back
242. July 25, 1780 [270]  
Personal letter from John Gardner at Bunau [perhaps Bonawe on Loch Etive in County Argyll, Scotland] to [? probably a British prisoner-of-war at Philadelphia]
243. July 26, 1780 [273]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to [Bradford?], concerning prisoner-of-war matters; requesting writing paper and materials
244. July 27, 1780 [274]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to Bradford, requesting that he send Hugh Frazier, a private in the British Guards, and two servants of Lieutenant Colonel Fox to Elizabeth for exchange; concluding "*pray pay a Degree of attention to our money matters & let me hear from you*"
245. July 12, 1780 [275]  
Letter from Colonel[?] Charles Heath to [Bradford?], concerning Mr. Gordon; concerning a soldier captured at Stony Point, deserted on the way to Frederick and now being sent to Bradford [?]
246. July 20, 1780 [275]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to [Bradford], reporting having received 279 American prisoners of war from Sproat, most belonging to Philadelphia; reporting that "*They think exceeding hard of you detaining Capt. [Michael] Hynman*" [commander of the sloop of war Hope]

247. July 11, 1780 [276]  
Copy of letter from [?] to "D<sup>r</sup> John", stating that "*Thy Nephew & my self after having long remaind Spectators of other People's proceedings have come to a determination to request thy shipping the annexd order to S<sup>t</sup> Eustatia*" [Dutch colony]; including additional matters of commerce; followed by the lengthy "*Order for sundry Goods*"
248. July 5, 1780 [279]  
Letter from John Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth, at Piscataway [New Jersey] to Bradford, concerning moving certain prisoners of war via his house, five miles from Brunswick and concerning money for them [John was the brother of Joshua Mersereau, who served as Deputy Commissary for Massachusetts. John does not seem to have served long as a deputy commissary. See note on Mersereau family after Reel 5 document 425]
249. July 5, 1780 [280]  
Order from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, that prisoner-of-war Captain O'Reilly of the German Regiment von Bose be given parole to go to New York for 60 days to recover his health
250. July 6, 1780 [281]  
Letter from John Connolly to Bradford, informing Bradford that he has been diverted unexpectedly to Bristol [Pennsylvania], while apparently on his way to Elizabeth and then New York; supposing that "*the apparent impropriety will be excused*"
251. July 6, 1780 [282]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, requesting that Bradford visit the War Board "*respecting the business of your Department*"
252. July 9, 1780 [283]  
Letter from Skinner at Springfield [New Jersey, northwest of Elizabeth] to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning prisoner-of-war matters with Sproat
253. August 7, 1780 [284]  
Extract of minutes of the Pennsylvania Executive Council at Philadelphia, resolving that a certain McIntosh Alexander, an inhabitant of Rhode Island, lately captured and imprisoned in Philadelphia, be returned home, as requested by the Rhode Island General Assembly; requesting that Bradford comply with this resolution; signed by Trimble for Matlack [microfilmed twice, the first time too dark to read easily]
254. August 16, 1780 [286]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Adam Dolmage at Philadelphia to Bradford at Philadelphia, requesting that Bradford forward three letters for him, two to New York and a third to Mr. Fundran

255. August 17, 1780 [287]  
Letter from German prisoner-of-war Philipp Pauthe at New Jail, Philadelphia, to John Mitchell, U.S. Quarter Master General, at Philadelphia, requesting assistance because there seems no hope of the German prisoners of war under his command being paid soon for their work, and they are in great need
256. August 17, 1780 [289]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, informing him that, because the British in New York have not allowed officer prisoners "*to draw Rations or any thing else for their Servants*", British officer prisoners of war will now be treated the same way with the order that "*no rations be issued to the Servants (whether Soldiers or not) of British or German Officers in future, on any pretence whatsoever*"; stating that, therefore, those gentlemen who choose to keep servants must do so at their own expense
257. August 18, 1780 [290]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, concerning the arrival at Lancaster of prisoners of war Captains "*Camble, Mure, Lyman, Murray, & Wallass*"; concerning exchange of a British prisoner-of-war Dr. Thorn, reporting that no Dr. Thorn is at Lancaster, but there is a Dr. Horn of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment
258. August 18, 1780 [291]  
Order from the War Board, conveyed by Stoddert to Bradford, that Lieutenant Leonard, Lieutenant Thompson, and Ensign Lawrence be immediately sent to Lancaster, the Commander in Chief having not "*found any evidence to justify the further Confinement of these Gentlemen*"
259. August 19, 1780 [292]  
Copy of letter from Thomas Wallace at Sint Eustatius [Dutch colony] to [Bradford], concerning Bradford's "*order*" that Wallace's send to him London newspapers, which he has obtained via a friend in England, who sent them to a friend in Amsterdam, who sent them to a friend in Antigua [British colony], after which Wallace has been sending them on to Bradford for 10 months, without any compensation for the considerable expense or any other communication from Bradford, about which he is not happy; including similar activities concerning other papers he has been sending to Bradford
260. August 29, 1780 [294]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to Bradford, sending to him as a [loyalist] prisoner a certain Uzal Ward "*formerly an Inhabitant of Jersey and lately taken Prisoner by our People*" with instructions that he be detained in jail at Philadelphia until negotiations are completed for release of a certain American prisoner by the British



261. August 30, 1780 [295]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, that the War Board has ordered that Colonel George Garrier of Sanford's Troops be sent on parole to New York, pursuant to a hoped for exchange with an American officer of equal rank.
262. September 1, 1780 [296]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting on the movement of certain prisoners of war in relation to exchanges
263. September 8, 1780 [297]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, ordering a parole for Lieutenant Connelly Coan of the 62<sup>nd</sup> British Regiment to go to New York
264. September 8, 1780 [298]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, concerning John Edwards, a Convention Troops prisoner-of-war at Lancaster "*who lately broke the Gaol*" with others, who are supposed to be at large in the Philadelphia area; Edwards and/or his wife seem to be involved in passing information to the Americans; hoping that, if Edwards can be caught, that Bradford will be able to keep him imprisoned; including additional details
265. September 11, 1780 [300]  
Letter from John Hern at Philadelphia to [Bradford], who has been a prisoner at Baltimore for seven weeks; requesting assistance since he is almost without money
266. September 17, 1780 [301]  
Personal letter from Thomas Miller at Charleston to "*Gentlemen*", with information about apparently loyalist trade, accounts, and war news, including account of a promissory note to [?] in "*NYC*" totaling £126.15.2 and cash payments to be made to several sergeants totaling "*15 guineas £16.6.0*"
267. September 17, 1780 [304]  
Personal letter from J. P. Ardesort, loyalist, at Charleston, to "*My Dear Langhorne*", with news from a British perspective from Charleston, mostly concerning various vessels, their armaments, and their activities, highly praising the "*Operations of the Immortal Lord Cornwallis—the Heaven born Col Tarlton & the Glorious & Spirited Lord Bodden...[and] that three such men never honored a Field of Battle before them*"  
[Note: The identity of Lord Bodden is not clear. A generation later, a William Bodden was colonial governor of the British Cayman Islands. Perhaps the Lord Bodden mentioned in this letter was from the same family.]  
[Note: How documents 266 and 267 found their way into Bradford's papers is not clear. Perhaps the correspondence was directed to or through a British prisoner-of-war in Philadelphia and was discovered and confiscated.]

268. September 18, 1780 [307]  
Letter from Atlee to Bradford, delivering a “*cask with some Cloathing for the Prisoners of the 82<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> confined in Philadelphia Gaol*” to be delivered to the men listed [list not microfilmed]
269. September 24, 1780 [308]  
Letter from Skinner, [as of September 15 officially Commissary General of Prisoners, succeeding John Beatty], at Camp, to Bradford, enclosing a letter being forwarded from Sproat, which Skinner has opened and read; commenting that “*I am really astonished at the man’s harrangue, his most curious reasoning, and his most religious Conclusions—they are truly laughable*”; stating further that “*I shall endeavor at our next Meeting to bring the man to his proper Senses (unless I find him a proper Subject for your mad house) and convince him that he is egregiously wrong*”; commenting further that “*Their success at Charles town is spoken of by them with astonishing presumption & attempted to be made use of in all occasions, tho I think they have not much to boast of*”
270. September 25, 1780 [309]  
Letter from Skinner at Camp to Bradford, describing exchange negotiations he has been engaged in with Mr. Loring; requesting passes for Captain Campbell of the 44<sup>th</sup> Regiment and Captain Mure of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, both to go to New York until they can be exchanged; requesting from Bradford a return of all prisoner-of-war officers and privates in Philadelphia  
[Note: **Joshua Loring Jr** (1744-1789), a Boston-born loyalist, was Skinner’s counterpart as British Commissary General of Prisoners, stationed at New York. Loring served in his position from 1777 through 1783. He and Skinner negotiated a number of significant prisoner exchanges between 1780 and 1782.]
271. September 29, 1780 [311]  
Personal letter from John Gray [evidently a British prisoner-of-war] at Philadelphia to his father; stating that he is in good health; hoping that his family is also
272. September 30, 1780 [312]  
Personal letter from John King at Charleston to Captain John White [perhaps a British prisoner-of-war in Philadelphia], assessing the status and success of British forces in the South with pessimism; stating that he likes Charleston “*better than New York (prejudice and certain attachments aside)*”, stating that “*I believe I shall remain here for at least Eight Months—providentially I have escap<sup>d</sup> Pestilence Battle and Fire: I have nothing now to dread but sudden Death*”; stating that “*Our Army is so exceedingly weaken<sup>d</sup> by Sickness and other Casualties, that our Right Hon’ble Commander, has not yet been able to penetrate into North Carolina*”

273. October 1, 1780 [314]  
 Personal letter from Elizabeth McClellan at Laer Merian [perhaps a place in Scotland] to her husband Samuel McClellan [evidently a prisoner-of-war at Philadelphia], sending personal news and closing by stating “*your fathers pepel has Rot by Every opertunity I Beg you Right By Every opertunity and I Will Do the same*”
274. October 2, 1780 [316]  
 Letter from Samuel Charles Heath in Delaware State to Captain Giles Hicks, asking that a certain [British prisoner-of-war] soldier, wishing to be exchanged, be sent to Bradford in Philadelphia “*and then he will be on the spot, when a general exchange may take place*”
275. October 3, 1780 [317]  
 Letter from John Brown, a secretary at the Admiralty Office, to Bradford, stating that the Admirably Board wishes that [American prisoner-of-war] Captain Benjamin Slade of North Carolina, now on parole, be exchanged as soon as possible for a British prisoner-of-war of equal rank; seeking Bradford’s assistance in making this exchange
276. October 4, 1780 [318]  
 Letter from A. Rowley [?] at Pittsburgh to Bradford at Philadelphia, enclosing “*a Number of Sheets for Publication, and I make no doubt but you will give them a place in the Pennsylvania Journal as soon as possible*”; the sheets apparently pertain to charges against Captain Benjamin Charnock Payne at Boston in 1775; with a postscript dated November 2, 1780  
**[Note:** The 1775 British military charges against **Captain Benjamin Charnock Payne** (c. 1736-1793) stemmed from his unpopularity as a cruel, demanding commander. A career military man, he was serving in the 18<sup>th</sup> or Royal Irish Regiment of Foot in 1775. Lieutenant Alexander Fowler brought wide-ranging charges against him, clustered around an immediate charge of cowardice that he had given up spare arms and baggage to a New York mob in June 1775. A court-martial acquitted him of most of the charges, and his military career continued. However, in June 1780, he was reassigned as a Major to the 99<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, which provided garrison duty in Jamaica. Thus, by the time the author of this letter to Bradford sought to stir the pot about Payne’s 1775 charges, they were old news, and Payne was no longer directly involved in the British military effort against the American Revolution.]
277. October 6, 1780 [321]  
 Note from Bradford at Philadelphia to [?] stating that the bearers of the letter are “*some women going into New York being tired of our Goal where their husbands are confined*”; suggesting that they should be well searched for papers before being allowed to go to New York “*as some of them are acquainted with the tories of this City*”

278. October 6, 1780 [322]  
Letter from Skinner at Newark [New Jersey] to Bradford, concerning granting parole to [Tory] Uzal Ward, as Skinner has been directed to do; seeking to have expedited the approval of warrants by the Treasury Board
279. October 10, 1780 [323]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that Sproat has not yet showed up to meet with Skinner at Elizabeth; stating that General Washington has "*at last consented to the Exchange of our Privates and officers in New York and Long Island which I am immediately to carry into Execution*"; requesting that Bradford attempt to obtain the warrants he badly needs from the Treasury Board
280. October 16, 1780 [324]  
Note from Peter Shiras, Justice of the Peace at Mount Holly [New Jersey] to Bradford, stating that a John Shanahan had been charged before Shiras with traveling without a pass, whereupon, Shanahan produced a letter revealing him to be a [British] prisoner-of-war; recognizing that Shanahan comes under Bradford's jurisdiction and wishing to know Bradford's wishes; having "*Detained Some things of his as a Security for his performance of going to you and returning with your Answer*"
281. October 18, 1780 [324]  
Letter from [American prisoner-of-war] Philip Moynagh on the Jersey Prison Ship at New York, to Bradford, on behalf of himself and five others from the ship Sally of Philadelphia, commanded by Captain A. Holmes, who were captured by the British frigate Greyhound, meant to be impressed into the British service, but instead imprisoned on the Jersey; seeking immediate relief of their suffering on the Jersey by being exchanged as soon as possible
- [**Note:** On October 19, 1780, Commissary General of Prisoners Skinner promoted Bradford to the new position of **Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners**, a title that Bradford held until the end of the war. See the Schwalm Collection, Reel 6 document 437.]
282. October 21, 1780 [325]  
Letter from Skinner to Bradford, asking that Bradford immediately send him \$20,000 of the money he needs and the rest as soon as possible
283. October 22, 1780 [326]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters to Bradford, stating that he is on his way to New York, on General Washington's orders, "*for the purpose of bringing out our poor Lads*" through an exchange that "*promises to be more extensive than I expected*", requesting that Bradford have all his prisoners ready, in case they are needed for the exchange; requesting again that he have money available for immediate use

284. October 30, 1780 [327]  
Letter from Benjamin G. Eyre at Kensington to Bradford, informing Bradford that a Mrs. Guinness has told him that her husband, William Guinness, is an [American prisoner-of-war] on a British prison ship in New York; seeking help in getting him exchanged  
[Note: Eyre's location is probably Kensington, Pennsylvania, now an inner city neighborhood north of center city Philadelphia.]
285. October 23, 1780 [327]  
Letter from Joseph Muller, Justice of the Peace, and Peter Shiras, Justice of the Peace, at Mount Holly, to Bradford, concerning prisoner-of-war John Shanahan, who has been sent to Philadelphia jail under Bradford's orders; enclosing \$180 returned security money for Shanahan, as well as his wallet, jacket, and shirt; explaining that "*as for his horse we Could not give him away. But gave the old Saddle and Bridle to pay For his keeping*"
286. November 1, 1780 [329]  
Letter from [British prisoner-of-war] Captain Maurice Nowlan, of the North Carolina Provincials, formerly a prisoner at Reading, now at New York, to Bradford, seeking to have remitted to him the 30 guineas "*that were transmitted by Major Adam to your particular care for my use*"
287. November 2, 1780 [330]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, providing information on the major exchange process now underway; thanking Bradford for sending him a [prisoner-of-war] servant
288. November 4, 1780 [332]  
Letter from [British prisoners of war] George Jamison, George Parker, James Robison, David Millar, and John Hamilton, all in the New Jail at Philadelphia, to Bradford, seeking permission "*to go out for any time you may think proper through the day*"
289. November 5, 1780 [332]  
Note from Colonel Richard Somers at Great Egg Harbor to Captain James [Thomas?] to take charge of prisoner-of-war John Riggons and convey him to the Commissary of Prisoners [Bradford], for which he should receive "*Reasonable Charges*"
290. November 6, 1780 [333]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford at Philadelphia, ordering him to confine in their rooms any British prisoner-of-war officers arriving on parole at Philadelphia until they leave the city again, "*which is to be, as soon as possible*"

291. November 7, 1780 [334]  
Letter from Skinner to Bradford at Philadelphia, asking Bradford immediately to send to Elizabeth 100 men from Knyphausen's [German] Regiment, all the privates from the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, and all the artillery men in Philadelphia jail, as well as the Garrison Battalion and all the men of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment; stating that these "*will enable me to pay the Debt I owe the Enemy and will leave a great deal of Room for the other prisoners which are coming in*"
292. November 6, 1780 [335]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Bradford, concerning Captain Nowlan's request for his 30 guineas [see document 286], Haller would like to receive the money so that he can settle Nowlan's debts to local inhabitants before the remaining money goes to Nowlan
293. November 9[?], 1780 [335]  
Receipt signed by John Adam and sent to Bradford for having received from Captain Foulk 171 "*Haval*" [probably the region of the Havel River in German] prisoners and 152 British soldiers, of which 9 are sick and tired[?] on the road coming "*on*" Elizabeth
294. November 10, 1780 [337]  
Letter from [evidently British prisoner-of-war] John Stewart at "*State Prison*" to Bradford at Philadelphia, seeking some freedom, first as a seaman unhappily imprisoned on land, and also to become paroled and exchanged
295. November 11, 1780 [340]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the shipping of a number of British former prisoners of war to England
296. November 13, 1780 [342]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford at Philadelphia, informing Bradford that British prisoner-of-war at Lancaster Captain Daniel Lyman of the Prince of Wales American Regiment, is coming to Philadelphia on a pass to collect his baggage and take it to Lancaster so that he can prepare with other officers to be exchanged from there
297. November 15, 1780 [343]  
Letter from Captain Lyman, at the Black Horse [perhaps the Black Horse Tavern, built in 1747 in Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, still functioning today], on the road to Philadelphia, stating that he had met Skinner along his route and that Skinner had advised him to have his servant procure his baggage; stating also that Skinner had offered Bradford's assistance in procuring a wagon to transport the baggage to Lancaster; meanwhile, Lyman would take an easier route and wait for his servant to bring his baggage to him at "*Shamany*" [probably Neshaminy in lower Bucks County]

298. November 15, 1780 [344]  
Letter from Mary Soggs at Boston to [Bradford?] requesting his help on behalf of her son "*Billy*", who, she says, was captured by the British and taken to New York; seeking assistance in getting her son released
299. November 16, 1780 [344]  
Letter from British prisoner-of-war John Champnoys in New Jail at Philadelphia to Bradford, seeking assistance in his exchange after apparently having been put off by a Mr. Folk, [American prisoner-of-war] on parole from New York who was supposed to be exchanged for him; pleading insufficient money to support himself and his young daughter while imprisoned
300. November 20, 1780 [345]  
Letter from John Hunt at Bristol [Pennsylvania] to Bradford, restating a previous request that Bradford provide assistance to restore to a certain prisoner-of-war his wife
301. November 22, 1780 [346]  
Letter from C. Pettit at Philadelphia to Bradford, seeking to assist certain prisoners of war who are anxious to be exchanged
302. November 23, 1780 [346]  
Statement from Captain Adam Faulk, certifying that Edward Young ferried across Neshaminy Creek [in lower Bucks County] 318 prisoners of war, 5 horses, and 2 four-horse teams [compare with document 304]
303. November 23, 1780 [347]  
Letter from Richard Williams at New Jail, Philadelphia, to his wife Rosey, asking her to help him with obtaining "*necessaries*" for the winter and getting a pass to deliver them to him; stating that he doubts he will be exchanged until after the winter
304. November 23, 1780 [348]  
Bill from Edward Toring to Bradford for ferrying 318 men, 5 horses, and 2 four-horse teams over Neshaminy Creek [compare with document 302]
305. November 27, 1780 [348]  
Letter from Robert Randomt [?] at Fredericksburg [Virginia] to Skinner at Philadelphia or "*in his Absence*" to Bradford, identified here as "*Commissary Prisoners in the Naval Department*", concerning "*the money for the two officers in Lancaster*" that "*had not got to hand*"

306. December 3, 1780 [350]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, requesting that Bradford send 100 prisoners of war from Knyphausen's Regiment for exchange; complaining that he cannot get enough British and German prisoners of war "*without which I am unable to release any more of our soldiers*"; complaining about Sproat's "assertions" blaming Bradford for difficulties in the exchange process; also requesting \$100,000 immediately for use in the exchange he is negotiating
307. December 6, 1780 [352]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, expressing happiness about exchanging more "Rascals"; forwarding three newspapers
308. December 7, 1780 [353]  
Letter from [Lieutenant Colonel] Moses Rawlings, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Frederick to [Bradford], sending "*a number of Prisoners, as you will see by the List*" to be held until they can be exchanged [list not microfilmed here]
309. December 7, 1780 [354]  
Letter from Skinner at New York to Bradford, restating his immediate need for the Knyphausen Regiment prisoners of war and money to be delivered so he can fulfill his promise for an exchange
310. December 8, 1780 [356]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, requesting that Bradford pay James Hendricks for transporting Captain Moore, and Lieutenants Davis, McClellan, and King with their baggage to Philadelphia, as Adam has contracted
311. December 8, 1780 [357]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that "*This place is very much neglected for every necessary assistance the poor captives stand in need of*"; stating that he has only \$266 "*for Gentlemen*"; stating that he has additional "*gentlemen*" prisoners of war to be sent to Philadelphia and needs Bradford's help to pay the "*waggoner*"
312. December 8, 1780 [358]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, stating that Skinner had asked him to "*collect the Hessian Prisoners of Warr who were scattered throughout this County & forward them down to you*"; stating that he accordingly has sent 86 prisoners, "*mostly of the Regiment of Knyphausen*"; requesting "*indulgences*" for exchange of particular prisoners of war, including Feldwebel Wolf and Lodwick Sigmund of the Regiment of Lossberg and John Miller of the Regiment of Rall; also sending John Woolley of the British Guards and Valentine Lockwood of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment for exchange; sending guards with these prisoners



313. December 13, 1780 [360]  
Letter from Stoddert at the War Office to [Bradford], ordering that when conveying "*officers released from captivity with money*", he should furnish them money based on how far they have to travel, for example, "*about three thousand Dollars*" for those traveling between 200 and 300 miles
314. December 11, 1780 [360]  
Note from [?] to [Bradford?] with instructions to pay to James Bennet \$187 [?] to be charged to Skinner's Commissary General account, signed by 8 individuals [probably to convey the signors, who may be prisoners of war]
315. [no date] [361]  
Letter from Christina Bonse to Bradford, seeking permission for her husband, one of several of "*Bergoines Prisoners*" in the Philadelphia jail, to be able to get out of jail during daytimes so that he can provide for himself and his family
316. December 15, 1780 [362]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Bradford, sending 36 prisoners of war "*which are all I had left after sending twenty five Hessians and twelve British with the Officers to New York*"; commenting that the "*sergeants are all civil & well behaved*" but admitting that "*there are yet a few sculking Fellows about this County I have not been able to collect*"; explaining that Lieutenant Burghoff "*who is included in the late Exchange is left in Goal at the suit of some of his Creditors*"; providing information about additional particular prisoners of war
317. December 15, 1780 [364]  
Note from John Brown, secretary at the Admiralty Office, to Bradford, stating that "*The Board desire you to furnish them with the information you promised respecting the flag from Charles Town*"
318. December 14, 1780 [364]  
Note from Nathaniel Hand Sheriff at Cape May [New Jersey], to Bradford, stating that he has been keeping in his custody four British prisoners of war since November 5; declaring that "*they are very Burthensom to this County*" and requesting that they be allowed to be sent to Philadelphia
319. [December?] 18, 1780 [365]  
Letter from Captain Maurice Nowlan of the [British] North Carolina Volunteers at Reading to Bradford, seeking information about whether "*there is any letters bills of exchange or money for any of us in Your hands, for we have expected a supplement of Cash [from New York] every Day for six weeks past*" [see documents 286, 292]

320. December 19, 1780 [366]  
Letter from Thomas Durie, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth, to Bradford, reporting lack of success in obtaining guards from General [Anthony] Wayne to escort Philadelphia prisoners [to Elizabeth]; suggesting that Bradford's last resort is to "*apply to the President of your State*" for guards [second page microfilmed twice]
321. December 21, 1780 [366]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, reminding Bradford that he is to distribute money for travel to released prisoners of war in proportion to the distance they must travel
322. December 24, 1780 [369]  
Letter from Durie at Morristown to Bradford, urgently seeking information on how soon the prisoners of war being sent for exchange will arrive, as they have not yet arrived
323. December 23, 1780 [370]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war John Edwards at New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford at Philadelphia, hoping that there is a chance he can be exchanged in a short time; stating that "*If there is I will give you one Genney for to send me off with the first party that is going*", and, if that is not possible, "*I will give you the same sum for my liberty in Town to go to work and likewise my Oath that I will not offer to make my Escape untill I am properly Exchanged*"
324. December 28, 1780 [371]  
Letter from Mary Fogge at Boston to [Bradford], seeking assistance, in her distress, to have her son exchanged; wishing that he might be exchanged for the captain of the vessel which captured him, when he was prize master on the vessel captured
325. December 28, 1780 [372]  
Letter from Major Smith Snead of Accomack County, Virginia to Bradford, stating that he had read in the papers that exchanges had just been accomplished, but stating that he has not seen any of the prisoners returned home, in particular his brother [perhaps Charles Snead of the British 9<sup>th</sup> King's Regiment; see Reel 5 document 676]; seeking information about the situation
326. December 30, 1780 [373]  
Note from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, informing him that "*I look for a Remittance every hour from Mr. Sproat*"; enclosing two newspapers

327. January 6, 1781 [375]  
Letter from E. McComb at Little Creek to Bradford, reminding Bradford that he and Skinner had helped to deliver some cash money from a widow Rowan to her son George Rowan, an American prisoner-of-war in New York; that, in the meantime, George had been exchanged, had “*missed*” the money, and McComb had asked Bradford to try to recover it; therefore, requesting information on whether the money was recovered and hoping that it can be returned to the widow
328. January 6, 1781 [377]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating incomplete news that it did not appear that the British were sending many new troops south to Charleston
329. January 15, 1781 [379]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that boat traffic to New York had been curtailed because Clinton’s army of 6,000 was supposed to be on Staten Island, but it had later moved; hoping for delivery of two prisoner-of-war servants for his personal use; enclosing two newspapers
330. January 17, 1781 [381]  
Personal letter from Frederick Thuhry at Lancaster to Colonel Swoope [apparently a prisoner-of-war at Philadelphia], stating that “*We have waited with much impatience to hear from you, and are truly anxious to know, y<sup>e</sup> reason for your long confinement*”; including personal news
331. January 17, 1781 [382]  
Letter from Thuhry, at Lancaster to Bradford, requesting that the enclosed letter [evidently document 330] be delivered to Colonel Swoope
332. January 21 1781 [383]  
Letter from Richard Wescoat to Bradford, concerning movements of particular prisoners of war
333. January 24, 1781 [384]  
“*Specification of Articles for four Anspach [Ansbach] Prisoners of War, now in Philadelphia Goal, namely by Dinkelonger [?], Herberich, Uhlmann and Baer*”, itemized in three categories to include subsistence money and two bundles of clothing, delivered from New York to Elizabeth by British Commissary General of Prisoners Joshua Loring, to be delivered from Elizabeth by carriage to the named prisoners at Philadelphia, who will pay the cost of delivery
334. January 5, 1781 [386]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Bradford concerning Bradford’s sending certain “*Necesary Sureties*”

335. January 30, 1781 [387]  
Personal letter from Eliezer Callander at Fred[erick?] to [Bradford], asking him to send "*An Asortment of stationery*", for which he will pay when billed
336. January 31 1781 [388]  
Letter from former American prisoner-of-war John Meals at Fredericksburg to [Bradford?], seeking release from parole he had to accept when exchanged because his British counterpart had not arrived in New York when he was exchanged; stating that he will be assuming a staff position in the Continental Army "*at the Southern Camp*"; wishing to be sure that he is free, by release from his parole, to take this position
337. February 1, 1781 [389]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, telling the story of a British prisoner-of-war, being exchanged, whose baggage was seized because of a horse belonging to a German soldier, was scared and "*came running to me, as he was afraid it was himself*"; concerning other prisoner-of-war business; apologizing that he has "*not a paper to Inclose for you*"
338. February 5, 1781 [391]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, having at the last minute, enclosed in his last letter a speech by the King, now enclosing with a packet of letters some newspapers
339. February 8, 1781 [392]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting another exchange of officers of foot
340. February 8, 1781 [393]  
Letter from Rawlings at Frederick to [Bradford], sending to Philadelphia "*about 90 Prisoners of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment*" to be sent on to Elizabeth "*as you think proper*"
341. February 10, 1781 [394]  
Note from Stoddert at the War Office to Bradford, asking him to pay Captain Paul Bentalon, formerly of Pulaski's Legion and a prisoner-of-war, "*as much money as any prisoner of his Rank has rec<sup>d</sup>.*"
342. February 17, 1781 [395]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to [Bradford], concerning prisoners of war of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment coming to Philadelphia from Lancaster; concerning certain American sailors who "*are particularly ill used by the enemy (because they refuse entering into their service & wishes they could be exchanged)*"

343. February 11 1781 [395]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, concerning \$20,000 he hears Bradford has, and which he would like to obtain and use if it is now available for a public use
344. February 19, 1781 [397]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting having sent money and two bundles of clothing to Philadelphia for use by certain German prisoners of war [see document 333]
345. February 20, 1781 [398]  
Letter from Skinner to [Bradford], requesting that he immediately send as much money as possible for upcoming exchanges; commenting that "*I find your Charge [i.e. the prisoners under his charge] begins to be very sickly and troublesome, and I hope Overtures will shortly be made that will extend to their release*"; expressing the human satisfaction of accomplishing successful exchanges, despite the difficulties
346. February 19, 1781 [399]  
"*Regulation of Rations furnished the Naval Prisoners in the hands of the Americans*", signed by Skinner
347. February 23, 1781 [400]  
Note from Ezekiel Cornell at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to pay Captain Lieutenant Giles Hicks "*of the late 10<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Reg<sup>t</sup> now a prisoner on parole*" \$3,000 in "*old continental*" money "*on account*"
348. February 25, 1781 [401]  
Letter from Rawlings at Frederick to Bradford, sending 9 prisoners of war of the 8<sup>th</sup> or King's Regiment to Philadelphia to be sent on to Elizabeth
349. February 26, 1781 [401]  
Letter from James Mifflin at Reading to [?] stating that he cannot oblige the letter's recipient by renting to him "*the House you mention*" because it "*was let to W. Attmore sometime before your application*" [the relation of this letter to Bradford is not clear, except that it is found in his papers]
350. February 26, 1781 [402]  
Letter from, Sarah Kennedy at "*Springs*" to Bradford, to [Bradford], seeking the favor of having [apparent American prisoners of war] Henry Holman, Peter Haring, and Henry Haring included in the next list for exchange, even if out of the usual order, "*as their usefullness both to their Friends and Country is very great*"

351. February 26, 1781 [403]  
Letter from Sergeant Hartly of the British 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot at New Jail, Philadelphia, to [Bradford], seeking recognition of a boy, in his charge and living with him in prison, as a prisoner-of-war attached to the British 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, so that Hartly can make sure he has a chance for exchange
352. February 27, 1781 [404]  
Letter from Daniel Hughes, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for the State of Maryland to [Bradford], seeking assistance on how to proceed with an exchange requested by the Governor and Council of Maryland between [apparently British] Captain Charles Whitehead "*of the Privateer Active on Parole to New York*" and Captain John Hamson of Maryland
353. February 28, 1781 [405]  
Unsigned note from Colonel Nicolas at the "*Barracks*" to Bradford, reading as follows: "*Col Nicolas Comp<sup>s</sup>. to Mr. Bradford & begs he will get 300 copies of the enclosed paper printed as soon as possible*"
354. March 7, 1781 [405]  
Note from Joseph Carleton, secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, instructing him to make a "*further advance of two thousand Dollars to Cornet Kelly, to enable him to join his Regiment in North Carolina*"
355. March 7, 1781 [406]  
Letter from Skinner to [Bradford], sending 32 American prisoners he has just brought from New York, they having been exchanged; requesting that Bradford send him an accounting of the names of several officers and amounts of money recently advanced to them; stating that "*I expect to Clear the Prisons Ships but shall write you fully on this Subject soon*"
356. March 10, 1781 [407]  
Personal letter from "Winn" at Williamsburg [Virginia] to Colonel Folger[?], concerning Winn's attempt to arrange for money owed him to be delivered to Folger; commenting on the movements of "*enemy*" troops under the command of Colonel [Thomas] Dundas in the James River area [Dundas' troops captured Williamsburg on April 18] [apart from the useful intelligence contained in this letter, how it became a part of the Bradford papers is not evident]
357. [no date] [410]  
List of by Skinner on account [for prisoners of war] with Bradford, with separate entries in Continental Dollars, with names, and in some cases reasons for expenditures, dated from October 12, 1780 through March 7, 1781
358. March 19, 1781 [414]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to [Bradford], seeking additional money from Bradford's account for Skinner's [prisoner-of-war] use

359. March 17, 1781 [415]  
Letter from John Malcolm at Wilmington, Delaware to [?], seeking that the recipient use his influence on Bradford to help obtain an early exchange for Jonas Matson, "*who is now & for some time has been a Suffering Prisoner on board the prison Ship at New York*"; whose wife Gwen Matson bears this letter, as the Matsons are "*both friends to the Cause of America and have a family of small Children whose support depends on their Joint Industry*"
360. March 21, [1781] [416]  
Personal letter from John D. Mercier to Dr. Cour, reporting on enemy pillaging at "*Horse Nick*" and elsewhere [in Virginia?]; addressed for delivery to Aaron Levy, merchant in Lancaster [for more on Mercier, see note after Reel 5 document 534]  
**[Note: Aaron Levy (1742-1815)** was a shopkeeper, Indian trader, and land speculator, born in Amsterdam but migrated to Pennsylvania in 1760, soon settling in Lancaster. He made his fortune speculating in land, mostly in Pennsylvania. Robert Morris of Revolutionary War financing fame, was a close partner in Levy's land speculation. Levy also contributed much of his own money to the revolutionary cause. After the war, Levy laid out and named a Pennsylvania town for himself, Aaronsburg, now a small rural village in the central Pennsylvania mountains, northwest of Harrisburg. Levy was reportedly the first Jewish person to lay out and name a town in America. Why he served as intermediary to deliver Mercier's letter to Cour is not evident.]
361. March 20, 1781 [418]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] John Edward at New Jail, Philadelphia, to [? Perhaps in Lancaster], thanking the recipient for his past assistance toward obtaining liberty and hoping that, if this person comes to Philadelphia, Edward might obtain further assistance toward exchange; closing that "*I should Be very proud if I were Living along with you again*"
362. March 22, 1781 [419]  
Letter from John Brown, secretary at the Admiralty Office, to Bradford, conveying a request from the Admiralty Board that prisoner-of-war Benjamin Marsdon, at new Jail, Philadelphia, be released in the custody of Stephen Collins, who will provide security "*that he shall be confined to his House & produced again when you call for him*"
363. March 24, 1781 [420]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, instructing him to pay an additional \$1,500, beyond the \$2,000 already paid him
364. [no date] [421]  
"*Col. Abraham Skinner, on [prisoner-of-war] accompt Current with Thomas Bradford*"; listing entries dated from October 14, 1780 to March 24, 1781, including names and purposes of payments

365. March 19, 1781 [425]  
Note from Sheriff J. Phillips at Burlington [probably New Jersey] to [Bradford], informing him that "*I have I Custody a Prisoner-of-war who broke out of Easton Goal some time ago, please to send for him immediately there is a small expense to pay for him*"
366. March 26, 1781 [426]  
Personal note from Richard Wescoat at "*Forks*" [of Egg Harbor, near Wescoat's home at Mays Landing and present-day Atlantic City, New Jersey] to [Bradford?] sending to him a dictionary he wishes to be bound for him and for which he will pay
367. March 29, 1781 [427]  
Letter from Sproat at New York to Bradford at Philadelphia, stating that "*It is with no small degree of Concern & reluctance that I mention the cruelty practis'd on the prisoners last Winter in Philadelphia*"; listing specific instances; stating his wish to expedite exchanges of naval prisoners, that he has offered American prisoners for exchange, and that "*I shall be glad you would make a General Goal delivery of every Naval Prisoner*"; stating that he has a small vessel he can use as a cartel, which can be used between New York, Elizabeth, New London, and Rhode Island; asking that Bradford "*mention it to some of the Members of Congress*"
368. April 3, 1781 [429]  
Letter from Holmes at Winchester to Bradford at Philadelphia, sending to Philadelphia 110 naval prisoners of war, both from the British navy and from privateers
369. April 6, 1781 [431]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, instructing him to pay an additional \$1,500 from his prisoner-of-war account to Lieutenant James Jervis of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Maryland Regiment
370. April 9, 1781 [432]  
Letter from John McCormick at New York, stating that Sproat has not complied "*with the Exchange of Prisoners as you asserted in my Parole*"; however, he has agreed to exchange Dr. Echarce [?] for "*one as you particularly specifie*"
371. April 12, 1781 [433]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, enclosing newspapers; sending boxes and packages of clothing and cash for various regiments [of prisoners of war in Philadelphia]; concerning negotiations with Sproat for prisoner exchanges



372. April 19, 1781 [434]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, sending two British officers who are delivering clothing for British prisoners of war at Philadelphia, by permission of General Washington; having sent more newspapers
373. [no date] [435]  
Listing of Skinner's [prisoner-of-war] account "No. 3" to Bradford, with entries dated from October 12, 1780 through April 30, 1781; with names and purposes of expense
374. April 23, 1781 [438]  
Letter from [prisoners of war] James Wilson and David Jones at New Jail, Philadelphia to Bradford, being imprisoned for almost four months, and being "*Intirely Naked & almost dead*", requesting permission to be released to serve in the Continental Army
375. April 21, 1781 [439]  
Letter from six prisoners of war [at Philadelphia] to [Bradford], stating that they previously had written to him "*and kept it as a Strong Secret unto Our selves—and now shall bury it in Oblivion*"; hoping that this first letter hasn't spoiled their chances of being exchanged, and again seeking assistance in being exchanged
376. April 28, 1781 [440]  
Letter from Henry Young Townsend at Cape May County, New Jersey, to Bradford, delivering five British prisoners of war captured by the militia in this county, listing their names and describing the circumstances of their capture
377. April 30, 1781 [442]  
Letter from Samuel Fisher at Cumberland [possibly Cumberland County in southern New Jersey, on the lower Delaware River below Wilmington, Delaware; possibly Cumberland, Maryland, or possibly Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, whose seat is Carlisle] to [?], concerning prisoners pay and wanting to settle his account
378. May 3, 1781 [443]  
Note from Adam Hargis to Dr. Lang stating that "*it surprises me to Hear of individuals being exchanged & no Exchange for me*"; hoping that he will be exchanged soon because "*I am in a Bad state of health*"
379. May 4, 1781 [444]  
Letter from John Slaughter at Cape May [New Jersey] to Bradford as "*agent to the ship Rising Sun*" seeking payment for his prize money

380. May 2, 1781 [445]  
Letter from seven named German prisoners of war in the New Jail, Philadelphia, to "*Honourable Gentlemen*", complaining that they all have been refused permission occasionally to go out to the city because of the "*ill behaving of the Corp<sup>l</sup>. Hzenhauser*"; seeking renewed permission to go out to the city on different days of the week
381. [no date] [446]  
List of Skinner's [prisoner-of-war] account "*No. 2*" for Bradford, with entries dated between October 22, 1780 and May 5, 1781 including names and purposes of expenses
382. May 9, 1781 [447]  
Personal letter from Hugh Dobbin at Philadelphia to [?] with obscure content because of a lack of context [microfilmed a second time in document 384]
383. May 10, 1781 [448]  
Letter from Stephen Cochran at West Fallowfield [a rural Pennsylvania township between Lancaster and Philadelphia, whose only village today is Cochranville] to Bradford as a printer, concerning poor delivery of papers "*from your office*"; hoping that something can be done
384. May 9, 1781 [449]  
Personal Letter from Hugh Dobbin at Philadelphia to [?] [second microfilming of this letter; see document 382]
385. April 25, 1781 [450]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, conveying an order that [American] prisoners of war returned from Charleston in a flag "*are to receive Sums equal to those who came out of New York, according to their Rank & Distance they have to travel*"; special provisions are to be made for sergeants and privates of the Virginia troops "*to enable them to go to the Southern Army*"
386. May 20, 1781 [451]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford, stating his opinion that "*I realy believe they mean an Evacuation*" from New York, since few troops are visible; stating that "*we have still a great many [American prisoners] there, including the Prison Ship not less than 400 odd—poor Felows I wish it were in our power to release them*"
387. June 18, 1781 [452]  
Letter from [British prisoner-of-war] James Christie at Philadelphia to Bradford, thanking Bradford for having granted permission for him to convalesce from a serious illness in "*sick Quarters*"; requesting now the favor of avoiding having to return to prison by being allowed to go to New York to be exchanged or at least placed on parole

388. June 12, 1781 [453]  
Letter from John Tanner at Elizabeth to [Bradford], concerning the difficulties of certain British officers, on parole, but stuck in Elizabeth before being exchanged, and the others on their ships have already sailed for England; requesting a respite, under parole, in Elizabeth before being sent to New York, where prospects for their rapid exchange seem slim
389. June 18, 1781 [454]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning the case of British prisoner-of-war Joseph Greenway, who has had difficulties over exchange and payments and his complaints about them
390. June 21, 1781 [456]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford; reporting that from visitors to New York, he hears that, "*the Inhabitants especially the tory set, seems to be in a great consternation The Whigs more lively—by all Accounts they are dismantling the fortifications, and from every appearance as they meant an entire evacuation and thought their destination is to Vergenia too your Lord CornWallese*"
391. June 24, 1781 [457]  
Note from Richard Wescoat at the Forks of the Little Egg [River, near Wescoat's home at Mays Landing and present-day Atlantic City, New Jersey], to Bradford, sending him three prisoners of war
392. June 26, 1781 [457]  
Letter from Pete Yulock at Trenton to Bradford concerning his exchange
393. July 4, 1781 [458]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting having had to defend himself at "*the Courts Martials to answer two unjust Charges laid against me by one Justice Halstead*"; with details [pages microfilmed in reverse order]
394. July 4, 1781 [460]  
Personal letter from John Stercld [?] at Baltimore to Bradford, concerning sale of his tobacco for cash; concerning a marine prisoner-of-war named Blunt and his exchange
395. July 10, 1781 [461]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, conveying the War Board's request that Bradford deliver, on order of Dr. Burney, "*one of the Chief Physicians of the General Hospital*", "*such of the sick prisoners of War in the new Jail as he shall deem proper objects for the Hospital*", as well as "*a [?] number of healthy [prisoners to attend those that may be delivered*"

396. July 16, 1781 [462]  
Letter from John Myers at the State Prison [Philadelphia] to [Bradford], requesting parole until "*the Gentlemans Arrival here, that is Coming from New York in Exchange for me*"
397. July 14, 1781 [462]  
Note from Mr. Orster at Philadelphia to Bradford, requesting that Bradford release a French prisoner named Francis Parée "*who is detained in Goal without any reason*"
398. July 16, 1781 [463]  
Copy of articles of a cartel to exchange certain prisoners of war "*taken in the Southern department agreed to at the house of W. Claudius Pegu in Pedee the 3d of May 1781 between Lieutenant Colonel [Edward] Carrington on the part of Major general Green and Captain [Frederick] Cornwallis on the part of Lieutenant general Earl Cornwallis*", including 12 itemized provisions [no list of prisoners microfilmed]
399. July 16, 1781 [465]  
Letter from William Brown, British Commissary of Prisoners at St. Augustine, East Florida, to [Bradford ?], enclosing the names of American "*Gentlemen prisoners*" of war sent to St. Augustine from Charleston on the flag of truce schooner East Florida, Charles Dames, master, pursuant to Carrington and Frederick Cornwallis' agreement of May 3, 1781 [no list of names microfilmed] [see document 398]
400. July 16, 1781 [466]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning various particular situations of British and American prisoners of war and the exchange process
401. July 16, 1781 [467]  
Letter from Brown at St. Augustine to [Bradford ?] [another microfilmed copy of document 399]
402. July 21, 1781 [468]  
Letter from [apparently American] Alexander Nelson "*On Board the Pris at N York*", to "*Mr. Gurney*", seeking Gurney's assistance in procuring either exchange or parole for him, stating that "*I am particularly unhappy in being brought in here at a time when the Adm<sup>rs</sup>. orders are too severe to suffer even passengers to be indulged with their Paroles*"
403. July 23, 1781 [469]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, sending two American prisoners of war on parole, to Philadelphia to tell their stories of suffering by American prisoners incarcerated at New York; reporting movements by British, Spanish, and French troops in the south

404. July 27, 1781 [470]  
Letter from [British prisoner-of-war] John Hayes at State Prison [Philadelphia] to [Bradford], requesting "*the Liberty of a Parole*" at Philadelphia or New York leading to his exchange
405. July 30, 1781 [472]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to [Bradford], sending newspapers
406. July 31, 1781 [473]  
Letter from John Brice "*On Board the Prison Ship William off N York*", to [?], seeking help in identifying "*a Man in Exchange for me*", since "*there is no possibility of obtaining a parole*"; concluding "my Comp<sup>ts</sup>. to all friends"
407. August 5, 1781 [474]  
Letter from Skinner at Camp to Bradford, stating that "*I am at last to see Sproat for the adjustment of our Acco<sup>ts</sup>. the particular Day is not yet fixed but I will give timely notice to you of it*"
408. August 7, 1781 [475]  
Letter from Matlack at Philadelphia to Bradford at Philadelphia, reporting that the Pennsylvania Executive Council is "*apprehensive of the many and great inconveniences which may arise from the continuance of the Flags of Truce late from Charles Town in South Carolina continuing longer in this state*"; therefore conveying a request from the Council that Bradford "*will order those Flags down the river immediately*"
409. August 6, 1781 [477]  
Letter from George Randall at Richmond County, Virginia to Bradford, expressing grief at receiving news of the death of his "*poor unfortunate Brother*"; stating that he would be happy to pay the amount owed to Bradford on an advance on his brother's account, except that "*as for Specie, there is little or none Circulating with us, in Virginia*"; suggesting other ways of paying off the debt
410. August 8, 1781 [478]  
Order of Lieutenant Colonel Nisbet Balfour of the British 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment or Welch Fusiliers and Commandant at Charleston to Robert Shephard, master of the brig Fanny, ordering him to proceed, as a flag of truce "*with American Women, Children, and servants, with their baggage On board, to Philadelphia*"; followed by "*To the within is Annex'd the names of the Crew*" of the flag of truce Fanny; listing by name 10 crew members; signed by James Fraser, [British] Commissary of Prisoners at Charleston [see also document 414]
411. August 16, 1781 [480]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] Lieutenant Joseph Hankins, seeking exchange for "*Me and My Men*"

412. August 16, 1781 [481]  
Letter from John Maxwell Governor of the British Bahamas, at Government House, New Providence, Nassau, to Charles Sherman, concerning a cartel sloop, the Good Intent, John Tucket master, with a list of 30 prisoners of war sent in the cartel; concerning another cartel brig the Cicily, Thomas Nicks master, with 39 American and 6 French prisoners of war; stating that the American Congress owes Nassau 138 prisoners of various ranks from capture of Nassau vessels by American privateers; itemizing the calculation of these 138 prisoners
413. August 22, 1781 [482]  
Letter from Walter Chaloner at New York, Commissary of Prisoners to the Associated Loyalists, to Bradford, concerning exchanges of loyalist prisoners of war incarcerated at Philadelphia, offering Americans Benjamin and Eli Canby in exchange for two loyalists
414. August 22, 1781 [483]  
Order from Balfour, British Commandant at Charleston, to George Lafield, master of the schooner Georgetown Packet, ordering him to proceed, as a flag of truce "*with American Women, Children, and servants, with their baggage On board, to Philadelphia*"; followed by "*To the within is Annex'd the names of the Crew*" of the flag of truce Georgetown Packet; listing by name 5 crew members; signed by Fraser [see also document 410]
415. August 24, 1781 [485]  
Letter from [John Adam] at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting that the whole Continental Army seems to be coming past Elizabeth [Washington's main army was indeed crossing northern New Jersey on its way south to Virginia]; reporting that an informant has exposed a conspiracy among the "Trading Gentry" not previously suspected of assisting the enemy but now "*detected in a very great Scene of Villainy*"; requesting that Bradford send coffee, sugar, and "*two good cheese*" [the letter ends abruptly here without signature etc. and may be incompletely microfilmed]
416. August 25, 1781 [487]  
Printed form [printed at Philadelphia by T. Bradford and P. Hall]" on which Richard Campbell of Philadelphia designates "*my Friend*" Michael Clark, blacksmith of Philadelphia, to be "*my true and lawful Attorney*", for purposes, among others, of handling legal business regarding prize vessels taken by the brig Fox, Captain Street commander; followed by [on the reverse side]  
August 25, 1781  
Legal statement documenting the authenticity of the document
417. August 25, 1781 [489]  
Printed form on which Richard Campbell designates Michael Clark as attorney to settle his estate [see also document 416]

418. August 28, 1781 [490]  
Letter from Joshua Nachtanes [?] at New York to Bradford, concerning exchanges of prisoners
419. September 2, 1781 [491]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Bradford at Philadelphia, reminding Bradford of his earlier request for prisoners of war to work at the prison at Reading; now repeating his request for two, named British prisoners of war, to help clean up the prison
420. September 10, 1781 [493]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford, sending newspapers and sharing news of troop movements
421. September 12, 1781 [494]  
Note from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, stating that "*The Board requests your immediate attendance at the Office*"
422. September 12, 1781 [495]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, reporting that a British prisoner-of-war named Warrington, captured at Cowpens, had escaped from Lancaster prison and had been seen "*at the House of one Nichols a gunsmith in Front Street inn your City*"; requesting that Bradford apprehend and return him; providing additional details
423. August 15, 1781 [496]  
Letter from [British prisoner-of-war] Joseph Gardner to Bradford, having previously received two badly needed guineas, requesting an additional four guineas; wishing to know when he will be exchanged; with details about his situation
424. September 16, 1781 [497]  
Personal letter from Cornelius Bradford at Rhinebeck [New York] to "*Cousin*" Thomas Bradford
425. September 17, 1781 [498]  
Letter from Cornelius Bradford at Rhinebeck to "*Nephew*" Thomas Bradford, inquiring on behalf of Job Mulford about any changes in the status of his servant, who has been imprisoned [how Thomas Bradford can be a cousin of Cornelius Bradford in document 424 and a nephew in document 425 is not clear]
426. September 18, 1781 [499]  
Personal letter from William C. Bradford [probably Thomas' brother] at Reedy Island [probably the Reedy Island located in the middle of the Delaware River near the river's outflow into Delaware Bay] to [Thomas Bradford] [why William Bradford was here is not clear]

427. September 21, 1781 [500]  
Letter from [British prisoner-of-war] Simon Lorrain at New Jail, Philadelphia, to his uncle, James Galahad "*to be forwarded to Mr. Hahavan [?]*" at Philadelphia via Captain Wade, Commandant at the New Jail, stating that he is about to be exchanged in New York but stating that, as a result, "*I fear I shall undergoe a great deal of Punishment*"
428. September 28, 1781 [502]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning movement of prisoners of war for exchange; sharing news about movement of British soldiers and fleet southward "*for the relief of Lord Cornwallis*"; wishing for news from the south; including a list of pairs of prisoners for exchange
429. September 24, 1781 [503]  
Letter from M. Mangan, late master of the British schooner Associator [?], stating that this is his sixth "Misfortune" and hoping to be paroled and exchanged soon
430. September 27, 1781 [504]  
Letter from Mary Bioren at Middletown [perhaps Pennsylvania, southeast of Harrisburg] to Bradford, requesting information about the amount and receipt of the prize money owed her husband Benjamin Bioren
431. September 25, 1781 [505]  
Note from A. Fitzimmons to Bradford, having taken the "*Liberty of Sending him [Bradford] a few little matters of which begs their acceptance*"; continuing "*A. F. will be always happy in testifying [about ?] done by himself [A. F.], as well as those who at present employ him*"
432. October 7, 1781 [506]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting not much news on prisoner-of-war exchanges
433. October 11, 1781 [507]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford at Philadelphia, concerning Sproat's approval for exchange of "*Cap<sup>t</sup> Nicholson and his Officers for Cap<sup>t</sup> Sterling & his officers*"; concerning other exchange issues and cases
434. October 10, 1781 [509]  
Letter from Durie, at Camp [at Yorktown], to Bradford, describing details of the battle situation
435. October 13, 1781 [511]  
Letter from Stoddert at War Office to Bradford, requesting immediate delivery of a return of prisoners under Bradford's care



436. October 17, 1781 [512]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting on prisoner-of-war matters; reporting on movements of the British fleet at New York; concerning the resignation of Chevalier D'Anterroches  
[Note: **Louis Joseph D'Anterroches** (1753-1814) was a French citizen from an aristocratic family and a distant cousin of Lafayette. In 1775, he ran away from home in France to London, where he volunteered for a military career in the British Army. Commissioned as an ensign at age 23 in 1776, his 62<sup>nd</sup> Regiment was assigned to Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's ill-fated army that surrendered to the American army at Saratoga, following defeat of the British on October 7, 1777. D'Anterroches was captured on September 19, during the first of the two bloody engagements at Saratoga, called the Battle of Freeman's Farm. Despite seeking assistance from his kinsman Lafayette, he seems to have remained a prisoner-of-war until December 1779, when he was released on parole to New York, pending a possible exchange. By 1780 he had been exchanged, after which, he married and remained in America. What he is resigning from, as reported in this letter, is not clear. See also the Atlee Papers in the Peter Force Collection, Reel 8 document 35.]
437. October 19, 1780 [513]  
Warrant from Skinner at Continental Army Headquarters to Bradford, appointing him Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners for the City and County of Philadelphia and adjacent areas  
[Note: Although this warrant is clearly dated in 1780, it has been organized chronologically by archivists with other documents dated in 1781. Skinner had been appointed Commissary General in September 1780, so Skinner promoted Bradford early after his own promotion.]
438. October 20, 1781 [515]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting that currently, "*our accounts ag<sup>t</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. Sproat over balances his last demand*"; hoping to exchange as many Philadelphia officer prisoners of war as possible for as many American officers as possible in New York and on Long Island
439. October 26, 1781 [517]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, gloating over news of the British defeat at Yorktown [Cornwallis had surrendered on October 19]
440. October 26, 1781 [518]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, conveying the War Board's order that Bradford liberate Benjamin Ford, once he shows a certificate from the Pennsylvania Executive Council and pledges not to return to enemy lines

441. October 30, 1781 [518]  
Note from James Trimble, writing for Secretary Matlack of the Pennsylvania Executive Council at Philadelphia to Bradford, stating that David Evans of Southwark has entered security for Benjamin Ford, so that he can now be discharged from confinement
442. November 4, 1781 [519]  
Letter from Durie at Morristown [New Jersey] to [Bradford], reporting on prisoner-of-war situations following his having left Yorktown
443. November 11, [1781] [521]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning specific prisoner-of-war situations
444. November 6, 1781 [522]  
Letter from Elizabeth Harrison, wife of John Harrison, to [Bradford] requesting that he "*send me by the Bearer that Small Matter that you Promised My husband you would Pay me before he went away as I am a little Nececiased at this time*"; indicating the sum of \$13
445. November 13, 1781 [523]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, concerning a letter from Skinner to Atlee about moving two prisoners which Atlee has not received but has heard of it from Bradford and acted on it already; concerning personal business relating to purchasing certain pictures from Bradford, as "*I have lately moved into the House wherein M<sup>r</sup> Shippen lived, & as it is much larger than the one I left*"
446. November 17, 1781 [524]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to "*all Whom it may Concern*" granting permission for prisoner-of-war Frederick Ross to reside at Germantown, Pennsylvania
447. November 19, 1781 [524]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, stating that "*The Board are of opinion that you should examine the Negroe Servants of the British Officers passing through this post, and detain all such as have not papers from M<sup>r</sup>. Ross of Virginia*"
448. November 24, 1781 [525]  
Letter from Sheriff Jacob Phillips of Burlington County [New Jersey], stating that "*Herewith you have the body of Edward Bronly*"; requesting payment for expenses for this prisoner-of-war, who "*made his Escape from the Army Surrendared by Cornwallis*" and apparently subsequently died

449. November 27, 1781 [526]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, ordering that Bradford allow Dr. Rupp of the Ansbach Regiment to go to New York for two or three weeks; he is to be "stationed on his Return at a Distance from Philadelphia"
450. November 27, 1781 [527]  
Letter from Christopher Vandergrift to Bradford, stating that he had sent a letter with money to his son, Dr. Francis Vandergrift, a prisoner-of-war at New York; stating that he believes it was not delivered to his son "*before his Decease*"; requesting that Bradford inquire about the letter and money and if recovered, "*please to pay it to Doctor John Read*"
451. November 29, 1781 [528]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, wishing that British prisoners of war from Cornwallis' army could be exchanged for American prisoners of war still suffering in New York
452. December 1, 1781 [529]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford, informing him that Adam's brother in law Captain Tingley had been made a prisoner-of-war; requesting that if possible he be paroled to be exchanged
453. December 3, 1781 [530]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning a possible naval flag of truce and hoping for negotiations between Sproat and Loring with Skinner; needing money to get through the winter
454. December 10, 1781 [531]  
Letter from [John Adam] at Elizabeth to [Bradford], stating that so far Sproat, Loring, and Skinner have not met; repeating his need for money for the winter months
455. December 4, 1781 [532]  
Note from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, ordering him to "*let Doctor Ruben have a Hessian prisoner out of the New Jail*" once Ruben has given sufficient security
456. December 17, 1781 [533]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that he is busy with Sprout and Loring; seeking to assist the bearer, Mrs. Mangen, whose husband, a prisoner-of-war, has been sentenced for a crime, including payment of £100, to get the fine paid and the prisoner-of-war released; seeking to move along naval exchanges

457. December 19, 1781 [535]  
Letter from Rawlings at Frederick to Bradford, seeking money to move along exchanges of British prisoners of war in Maryland
458. December 30, 1781 [536]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that he has “*sent on today*” the women with the prisoners of war from Yorktown; stating that he has “*not a Sillable of News*”; enclosing a newspaper
459. January 13, 1782 [537]  
Letter from Henry de Ponthieu at the Office for Prisoners of War at Antigua to [?], sending, on order of British General Shirley, 194 American prisoners of war; requesting that an equal number of British prisoners of war be sent to New York; noting that “*The Officers have had leave to return upon Parole by way of St. Thomas’s and likewise some of the Bostonians that the Flag had not room for*”  
[Note: Henry de Ponthieu (1731-1808) of French Huguenot descent, was a wealthy London merchant who spent considerable time in the West Indies, where he became well known as an amateur botanist. This letter indicates that he also worked for the Antigua government during the American rebellion.]
460. January 13, 1782 [539]  
Letter from Samuel Crawford at Philadelphia to his cousin, expressing sorrow that the cousin has become a prisoner-of-war; hoping he will be released soon
461. January 21, 1782 [540]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, with little new to report
462. January 21, 1782 [541]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, complaining about the conditions of American prisoner-of-war, while among British prisoners of war, “*Every man has now got, a Carpet six feet long and three feet Broad to lay upon and a good mild Blankett to cover him, also Shoes, stockings, trowsers, Shirts, Jacketts & Caps*”
463. January 24, 1782 [543]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, concerning a particular prisoner-of-war exchange
464. [no date] [543]  
Note from E. Weed to Bradford, stating that “*there is three men who will Perrish for want of Provisions and they insist that they do not belong to any Ridg*”
465. January 29, 1782 [544]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Henry Haller or Bradford, ordering them to deliver to Richard Polus up to three British or German prisoners of war, for whom he will be responsible

466. January 31, 1782 [545]  
Letter from Skinner to [Bradford], seeking payment of \$55 for wood provided by several farmers for American prisoners of war at New York
467. February 2, 1782 [546]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, reporting that "*The Sound is now froze & passable between this & the Island, which leave us a little apprehensive of a Visit from the Enemy*"
468. February 6, 1782 [547]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, stating that [his friend] Paul Zantzinger of Lancaster "*wishes to have one of the Hessian Prisoners of War who are under your care at Philadelphia*"; requesting another for his brother to work on his farm
469. February 13, 1782 [548]  
Letter from L. Betaling at New York to [Bradford], concerning John Hurd, an American prisoner-of-war sent to England, and a letter from Hurd to his wife, which Betaling is forwarding
470. February 17, 1782 [550]  
Letter from G. H. Van Wagenen, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Fishkill, New York, concerning Captain Totton of the Delaney Corps, who was supposed to be in line for exchange, except for Governor Clinton "*having Demanded him as a Deserter, as he was An Officer in the Militia of this State, at the time he went off to the Enemy*"  
[Note: **George Clinton** (1739-1812) was governor of New York from 1777 until 1795. Later, he served as Vice President of the United States from 1805 to 1812.]
471. February 18, 1782 [551]  
Letter from John Connolly to Bradford, seeking permission to "*go out for a few hours occasionally before my departure hence*" to get some exercise and "*to expedite the Settlement of Mr. Morgan's claim*"  
[Note: For more on **Dr. Lieutenant Colonel John Connolly**, see Reel 5, document 637 and the note that follows.]
472. February 18, 1782 [552]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning provisions for prisoners of war
473. February 21, 1782 [553]  
Letter from J. Townes, Lieutenant of the 7<sup>th</sup> [Regiment] of Virginia and [former] prisoner-of-war, captured at Charleston, seeking to settle his account with Congress; requesting certification of the date of his exchange

474. February 23, 1782 [554]  
Letter from N. Clarkson, assistant secretary at the War Office, to Bradford, conveying an order to release Connolly's servant, imprisoned in the Old Jail, Philadelphia, to go with his master to New York
475. February 25, 1782 [555]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, sending 252 prisoners of war to Philadelphia, as ordered, all from the Corps of Sappers and Miners, plus "*a few of their women & children*"; stating that another party of similar size will be sent in a few days
476. February 25, 1782 [556]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, requesting both clothing and money
477. March 4, 1782 [557]  
Letter from [prisoner-of-war] Captain B. L. Infarty [?] at Lancaster, seeking assistance in his special situation, as known to Skinner and in other correspondence
478. March 6, 1782 [558]  
Letter from former Commissary General of Prisoners John Beatty, at Princeton, "*to whom it may concern*", concerning American prisoners of war of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Battalions commanded by Colonels Cadwalader and Magan, captured at Fort Washington in 1776; stating that most of them were exchanged on November 24, 1778
479. March 6, 1782 [559]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, conveying newspapers and letters to be forwarded
480. March 9, 1782 [559]  
Note from Peters at the War Office to Bradford, requesting an order for Nicholas Eil or Eiler, a German prisoner-of-war
481. March 11, 1782 [560]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, anticipating a possible British withdrawal and speculating about news arriving from England, that it may now be "*fabricated to consol the refugees*"
482. March 14, 1782 [561]  
Letter from Captain G. Fleming of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Artillery at Burlington [New Jersey] to Bradford, asking that the deserter from this regiment be returned
483. March 14, 1782 [562]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that the news is not being printed out of New York

484. March 17, 1782 [563]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating his inability to get a copy of the Nautical Almanack for this year because it was sold out; stating that "*They have at last acknowledged their Capitulation of Brimstone Hill the 7<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>e</sup>. which you will observe by the Paper of the 16<sup>th</sup>*"
485. March 18, 1782 [564]  
Personal letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Bradford, concerning printers and other matters
486. April 4, 1782 [565]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford, concerning ongoing work with Sproat on exchanges
487. April 10, 1782 [566]  
Letter from John Young, Deputy Quartermaster General of the British Army at Wilmington, to Bradford, concerning two vessels with clothing for British prisoners of war at Lancaster and Philadelphia; wishing to inspect and distribute the clothing as needed and to obtain a pass to Philadelphia from Bradford
488. April 21, 1782 [568]  
Note from William Potts at Narces [?] to [Bradford?], requesting that Bradford pass on to his wife a letter from him
489. April 11, 1782 [569]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war John Ives in "*N<sup>o</sup>. 12 East Wing*", [New Jail, Philadelphia?] to [Bradford], describing his personal story of coming as a school teacher to Charleston in 1775, when "*it was not Imagined that the Southern States was unanimous with the Northward States in the unhappy dispute between Brittan and America*"; having moved to West Florida to escape the rebellion but become involved in a Creek Indian fight that was fatal to several of his neighbors; having moved back to South Carolina and back to Charleston when it was occupied by the British; having later moved to North Carolina; having been captured and became a prisoner-of-war; having been moved several times to remain far from military actions and ending up in Lancaster and then Philadelphia; requesting that Bradford consider his "*unhappy case*" and help him to be released.
490. April 25, 1782 [572]  
Letter from John Adam to [Bradford], concerning capture of a British vessel named the *Minorca*, with details

491. May 16, 1782 [573]  
Letter from Durie at Morristown to Bradford, concerning money to pay for exchanges; offering various bits of news, including that General Washington has ordered that all flags of truce go only through Dobbs Ferry on the North [Hudson] River
492. May 22, 1782 [575]  
Letter from Carleton, requesting that the enclosed letter, directed to him via Stoddert, be forwarded to John Adam at Elizabeth
493. May 20, 1782 [576]  
Petition from prisoner-of-war Hugh Hood at New Jail, Philadelphia, to General Benjamin Lincoln, military commander at Philadelphia; apparently having been drunk; seeking release by some means; note on reverse "*Hugh Hood in the Camden Galley. Cap<sup>t</sup> Eyres—drunk & deserted—the day after the English came into Philad<sup>a</sup> [?] wishes to join the American Army*"
494. May 23, 1782 [578]  
Letter from Sergeant Abraham Ruttan at Penn's Neck [New Jersey, across the Delaware River from Wilmington], concerning sending whiskey and other goods for him and others [see also documents 508 and 517; whether Ruttan was working for government or privately for Bradford is not clear]
495. May 24, 1782 [579]  
Petition from prisoner-of-war Thomas Smith at New Jail, Philadelphia, to General Lincoln at Philadelphia, seeking release from his "*Unhappy Situation*" by being allowed to join the American Army
496. May 24, 1782 [581]  
Letter from W[illiam] Jackson at the War Office, to [Bradford?] requesting that the enclosed petitions [probably documents 493 and 495] be looked into and their respective circumstances be reported to the Secretary at War [General Benjamin Lincoln]  
**[Note:** Born in England and brought up in South Carolina, **William Jackson** was an accomplished staff officer during the Revolutionary War. He served on the staff of General Washington and as personal secretary to John Laurens (son of Henry Laurens). In 1782-1783, he served briefly as Assistant Secretary of War. His most accomplished position was as secretary to the Constitutional Convention in 1787. See also Reel 8 document 27 in the Prisoners of War Lists, Peter Force Collection.]



497. May 28, 1782 [582]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, ordering Bradford to pay to Captain Proveaux "*his subsistence up to the 30<sup>th</sup> April last*"  
[Note: This may be **Captain Adrian Proveaux** (c. 1750-1804). Born in French St. Domingo, he emigrated to Charleston in 1775 and soon joined the Continental Army. Captured by the British at Charleston in 1780, he was released after several months. After the war, he married and lived in Charleston until his death.]
498. May 31, 1782 [582]  
Letter from John Brice to Bradford, apparently an American prisoner-of-war in New York, seeking assistance in being exchanged for some sailor or soldier
499. June 1, 1782 [583]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth, to Bradford, concerning British news at New York; stating that "*They seem to labour hard to support their News from the West Indies, which makes me of opinion they doubt the truth of it*"
500. June 6, 1782 [586]  
Letter from Skinner at Headquarters at Newburgh [New York], to [Bradford], stating that "*I am this moment setting off for New York with a Flag of Truce at the request of the Commander in Chief for the purpose of endeavoring to relieve this horrid Prison Ship [probably the Jersey] of its dreadful Burthen. A Committee from on Board have been this day or two at H<sup>d</sup> Q<sup>s</sup> for the purpose of representing their grievances which rest assured surpasses all description*"
501. June 7, 1782 [587]  
Copy of order by the United States Congress "*That the Secretary at War call in all the British soldiers Prisoners of War to the United States who have been permitted to go out to Work with the Inhabitants and that for the future no such permission be granted for such purposes*"; signed by Charles Thomson, secretary
502. June 10, 1782 [588]  
Letter from Daniel Clymer, former Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Camp in 1777-1778, to Bradford, concerning release of prisoner-of-war Tom Turner
503. June 18, 1782 [589]  
Letter from John Beatty, former Commissary General of Prisoners in 1778-1780, at Trenton, to Bradford, concerning certification of the accounts of several named Pennsylvania militia officers who had been captured by the British

504. June 26, 1782 [591]  
Letter from prisoner-of-war Sergeant John Adam Pills of Knyphausen's Regiment, at New Jail, Philadelphia, to Bradford, on behalf of himself and three other German/British prisoners of war, seeking restoration of the previously granted indulgence of allowing them to go to market twice a week
505. June 28, 1782 [592]  
Letter from Elizabeth Graham at New Brunswick [New Jersey] to [Bradford?], writing again concerning a suit filed by Ennis Graham formerly of New York against John Whick; stating that "*I should be glad to know what is done in that affair, and if you have not proceeded against him, if you cant now proceed without any further delay it's high time he should settle it and from his conduct he deserves very little favour*"
506. June 29, 1782 [593]  
Letter from James M. Lavele at the War Office, ordering that Bradford inquire into the case of Thomas Wilson, and if he is found to be a deserter, not a prisoner-of-war, to release him
507. July 4, 1782 [594]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, stating that "*There is various reports respecting Lappencut [Lippencott?] which makes it hard to come at the truth*" about whether he was a Tory or not
508. July 4, 1782 [595]  
Letter from Abraham Ruttan at Penn's Neck [New Jersey] to [?], concerning procuring provisions for his men [see also documents 494 and 517]
509. July 6, 1782 [596]  
Letter from Durie at Newburgh to [Bradford], concerning obtaining money from [Robert] Morris "for a settlement of my accounts"
510. July 15, 1782 [599]  
Letter from W[illiam] Jackson at the War Office to Bradford, stating that "*Gen<sup>l</sup>. Lincoln wishes to see you soon as possible*" [see note after document 496]
511. July 16, 1782 [600]  
Letter from former [American] prisoner-of-war John Dennis to Bradford, concerning a letter from fellow prisoner-of-war Captain Dickey, seeking ways to have him exchanged
512. July 17, 1782 [601]  
Petition from prisoner-of-war James Oliver of the South Carolina Regiment, captured at Charleston, at New Jail, Philadelphia, to [General Lincoln?], seeking relief from his "*Deplorable Condition*" in confinement

513. July 24, 1782 [602]  
Letter from Daniel Peach at New Jail, Philadelphia, to [Bradford], seeking release, based on his story that he was a loyal American, was captured by the British and put on a prison barge, sought to escape and was "*By our own People Retaken and Brought here*"
514. August 13, 1782 [603]  
Letter from Skinner to Bradford, informing Bradford that Congress had displaced Skinner in his position, by which he feels he has been "*ungenteelly treated*"; having offered his resignation to Washington, which Washington refused to accept; stating that instead "*I am again appointed by the Commander in Chief de novo and I rather suspect the old Gent<sup>n</sup>. is displeased with the Conduct of Congress*"; stating that "*I propose to close the whole of my Acc<sup>t</sup>. before I leave Town, and quit the troublesome Seence [?]*"; looking forward to renewing his personal friendship with Bradford soon
515. July [?], 1782 [606]  
Letter from Skinner at New Brunswick to Bradford [content barely readable because of very dark microfilming]
516. October 4, 1782 [607]  
Letter from Carleton at the War Office to Bradford, concerning the payment of guards, which has fallen behind for April, May, and June; stating that Bradford should pay them using warrants being issued
517. October 22, 1782 [608]  
Letter from Abraham Ruttan at Penn's Neck [New Jersey], seeking additional supplies [see also documents 494 and 508]
518. [?] 6, 1782 [609]  
Letter from William Geddes to [?], expressing concern about "*The distresses of those poor Scots Prisoners*"; hoping for their relief
519. [no date] [609]  
Receipt for receipt from Bradford by Lieutenant James Armstrong £2.5 for "*Sundry Expences Going to Phil<sup>a</sup> with a flag*"
520. December 22, 1782 [610]  
Letter from John Adam at Elizabeth to Bradford, sending a few newspapers; needing money
521. December 23, 1782 [611]  
Letter from Skinner at Elizabeth to Bradford, concerning sorting out accounts at the end of the war, including accounts with France; inquiring about Bradford's solvency in cash and lands; stating his own need for money

522. December 24, 1782 [613]  
Letter from John Adam to Bradford, concerning the settlement of accounts;  
enclosing newspapers
523. June 6, 1783 [614]  
Letter from Durie at Morristown to [Bradford], stating that he has been over to  
New York; concerning balancing personal accounts

**Johannes Schwalm Historical Association**  
**Collection—Prisoner-of-War Papers**  
**Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents**  
**Library of Congress Manuscripts**  
**(on permanent loan to the David Library of the American Revolution)**  
**DLAR Microfilm Set 732 (1 Reel)**

**Reel 1**

**Elias Boudinot Correspondence and Other Documents Pertaining to Prisoners of War**

Container 1

|                                    |                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| January 30, 1776 to April 30, 1778 | Documents 5 to 121 | [Frames 21-413] |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|

Container 2

|                                |                      |                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| May 11, 1778 to March 14, 1782 | Documents 123 to 144 | [Frames 418-487] |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|

(Source: Elias Boudinot Papers, (Library of Congress Manuscript Shelf 22,346))

**Note:** This collection of Boudinot papers contains documents not pertaining to prisoners of war as well as those that do. Only those documents pertaining to prisoners of war are included in this Finding Aid, as summarized by Container above. The entire collection on this Reel is summarized below:

Container 1

|                                  |                 |                |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| March 20, 1773 to April 30, 1778 | Documents 1-121 | [Frames 6-413] |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|

Container 2

|                                   |                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| May 11, 1778 to February 15, 1812 | documents 122-190 | [Frames 414-659] |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers (manually calculated) appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

## Container 1

[6]

5. January 30, 1776 [21]  
Letter from General Philip Schuyler to Lieutenant Brasher, concerning  
*"Instructions on Taking Canadian prisoners [taken at St. Johns] to Bristol, Pa."*  
[Note: The capture of **Fort St. Johns** (or Fort St. John or Fort St. John's, and Fort St. Jean in French) in November 1775 opened the way for the fledgling Continental Army to capture Montreal and then to contend for Quebec, which it failed to capture. Generals Schuyler and Richard Montgomery shared command early in the Canadian campaign, but Schuyler became ill, and Montgomery took over sole command. Apparently Schuyler's troops later became responsible for moving British prisoners of war from Canada to Pennsylvania.]
6. February 20, 1776 [23]  
Complaint by Alan Cameron to the Continental Congress, concerning *"the cruelty of his confinement owing to his being mistakenly identified as a Mr. Cameron, agent to the Cherokee nation"*  
[Note: This Mr. Cameron is **Sir Alan Cameron of Erracht** (Scotland) (1753-1828). He volunteered for the British Army early in the Revolutionary War and recruited Scottish troops whom he commanded. In 1775, he was captured by the Americans and was imprisoned for two years in Philadelphia.]
7. February 21, 1776 [27]  
Letter from Thomas Gamble [British prisoner of war] at Trenton to James Duane requesting *"an arrangement for an exchange"*  
[Note: **James Duane** (1733-1797) was an early revolutionary leader in New York. He served in the Continental Congress and held other posts during the war. Following the war, he became Mayor of New York City. Why Thomas Gamble chose to seek assistance from Duane is not clear in this correspondence.]
8. February 22, 1776 [31]  
Letter from John Smythe to John Hancock, President of Congress, *"with account of his sufferings as a [British] prisoner [of war]"*  
[Note: **John Hancock** (1737-1793) was a wealthy merchant-turned-politician from Massachusetts. He served as President of the Continental Congress in its early, crucial years. As President, he was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence in July 1776. The several items of Hancock correspondence found in this collection reveal that the President of Congress had to deal with many smaller issues in addition to the large ones such as independence.]
9. February 27, 1776 [35]  
Letter from Alan Cameron, in the Philadelphia Jail, to Congress, asking *"for alteration of his treatment as a prisoner"* of war

11. July 12, 1776 [42]  
Address from British prisoners of war at York [Pennsylvania] to President of Congress Hancock, "*Concerning cruel treatment*", signed by 11 individuals
13. July 26, 1776 [48]  
Letter from John Hanson, Chairman of Committee for the Middle District of Frederick County, at Frederick [Maryland] to the Board of War, "*acknowledging receipt of prisoners*" of war
14. July 26, 1776 [51]  
Letter from Hanson to [?], in "*Acknowledgment of receipt of number of officers—prisoners of war*", including names of 16 prisoners
15. July 29, 1776 [54]  
Letter from British prisoner of war Thomas Gamble at City Tavern [Philadelphia] to Richard Peters, Secretary of the Board of War [in its administrative arm, the War Office], stating his "*Consent to sign a parole*"
16. July 30, 1776 [58]  
Letter from Gamble at City Tavern to Peters at the War Office, seeking release from the hardships of his confinement
17. July 30, 1776 [62]  
Letter from Collinson Read, Secretary of the Committee of Reading [Pennsylvania], to Peters, acknowledging receipt of prisoners
18. July [?], 1776 [65]  
Letter from Gamble to Peters, "*expresses willingness to sign the engagements required by Congress; apologises for his unguarded expressions of a few days before*"
20. August 1, 1776 [73]  
Complaint from "*Prisoners of war at Carlisle (incl. John André with insert by Gen. Wooster*", complaining of both personal attacks and plundering of baggage; signed by 11 British prisoners of war; including fragment in other handwriting stating "*Your Committee to wh... on the Inhabitants of the...leave to report that there be for the wi...Establishment three...of Westmoreland & p...*"; including note stating "*General Wooster says the Complaint is false he heard of no Plunder but of General Prescotts*"

**[Note:** A Library of Congress archivist picked one name out of the signatures of British prisoners of war on this complaint. **John André** (1750-1780) was brought up in London by French and Swiss parents. He joined the army young in 1770 and was sent to North America. Captured at Fort St. Johns in 1775 (then a Lieutenant), he spent most of his prisoner-of-war time at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Apparently he had been moved to nearby Carlisle in August 1776 when he joined this complaint. In December 1776, he was exchanged and immediately returned to active military duty, soon rising to the rank of Major. In April 1779, he was appointed to head the British intelligence effort in America—and soon began intelligence-gathering intrigues with American informants—the most fateful of these being Benedict Arnold. His arrest during one of these intrigues led to Arnold's exposure as a traitor and André's execution as a spy at age 30 in October 1780.]

21. August 17 1776 [81]  
Letter from George Stevenson at Carlisle to Congress, being the cover letter for the complaint letter from British prisoners of war at Carlisle [document 20], which he has conveyed, as directed by the Cumberland County [Pennsylvania] Committee of Inspection and Observation
22. September 9, 1776 [81]  
Letter from [prisoner of war?] J. S. Symes at Bethlehem [Pennsylvania] to Peters at the War Office, stating, with explanation, that he was "*unaware of having broken parole*"
23. September 12, 1776 [85]  
Letter from Gamble at Reading to Peters, "*concerning his exchange*"
24. September 12, 1776 [89]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] James Gill at Reading to Peters, expressing "*wishes to return to Philadelphia to remain until exchanged*"
25. September 12, 1776 [91]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] Captain Daniel Robertson of the Royal Highland Emigrants at York to Peters, reporting that "*4 British Prisoners [of war, under Robertson's command, taken at St. Johns,] enlisted in the Continental Army*", information that he had previously reported to Hancock, and now said there were two more.
26. September 13, 1776 [93]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] James Forrest at the Philadelphia prison to Hancock, that "*explains how his vessel was taken by one of the "Congress Cruizers" and himself and others taken prisoner*"



27. September 30, 1776 [97]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] H. Beaumont, surgeon of the 26<sup>th</sup> Regiment, at Reading, to Peters, concerning his exchange
28. October 13, 1776 [99]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] Lieutenant W. Barrington of the Royal Fusiliers at Carlisle to Peters, "*begging leave to be permitted to go to Frederick Town in Maryland to transact some busyness with the Prisoners of War there*"
29. October 15, 1776 [101]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] John Foxcroft at Philadelphia to Hancock, making "*application to leave to go to New York*", "*to return to a distress'd Wife and Children*"; including note signed by Charles Thomson, a secretary [of Congress], stating that Foxcroft's application was "*read in Congress Oct. 15. 1776 Leave granted, he giving his parole to the board of war & not setting out on his Journey before next week*"
30. October 15, 1776 [105]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] John Fraser at Reading to Peters at the War Office that "*acknowledges permission [from Congress] to go to Canada*"
31. October 16, 1776 [107]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] Lieutenant Philip Anstrucker of the Royal Fusiliers to Peters, at Carlisle, which "*requests permission to come to Philadelphia for benefit of his health*"
32. October 24, 1776 [109]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] Samuel Scott, at Philadelphia, to Peters at the War Office, stating that he "*was captured by sloop commanded by John Paul Jones on way from Barbados to London. Has opportunity to return home and requests permission to do so*"
33. November 18, 1776 [111]  
Letter from British prisoners of war at Carlisle, to Peters, who "*Request advance of \$2.00 per week for lodging*", since "most" of the officer prisoners, particularly at Reading and Frederick, have already received such an advance; signed by eight individuals, including John André [see note after document 17]
34. November 22, 1776 [113]  
Letter from Captain Allen McDonald of the Royal Emigrants to Peters, seeking an allowance of \$5.00 per week for him and his servant

35. January 3, 1777 [116]  
Letter from Timothy Pickering to Elias Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners, seeking a favor for the benefit of Lieutenant Nealy of the American 2<sup>nd</sup> Pennsylvania Brigade, to assist in approving release of Nealy's brother, John Nealy, a sergeant in the British 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Guards, who was "*taken prisoner a few days Since & Sent to Reading*"  
[Note: **Timothy Pickering** (1745-1829) was from Massachusetts. Early in the war, he served as Adjutant General of the Continental Army. In November 1777, he was appointed to the War Office but also continued as Adjutant General until January 1778. Following the war, he served in several important U.S. national-government positions in the 1780s and 1790s, including Secretaries of State and War and Postmaster General. During the early 1800s, he served in the U.S. Congress for most of 14 years.]  
[Note: **Elias Boudinot** (1740-1821), a Philadelphian and friend of Benjamin Franklin, was appointed in May 1777 by General Washington to oversee American prisoner-of-war affairs as Commissary General of Prisoners. His appointment included a commission as colonel in the Continental Army. Clearly he was engaged in prisoner-of-war activities before the official date of his appointment, and was even being addressed with the title that would officially become his a few months later.]
36. February 13, 1777 [119]  
Letter from Pierre Van Cortlandt, President of the New York State Convention, at Fishkill, to General George Washington at Headquarters at Morristown, New Jersey, "*concerning exchange of some [four] New York prisoners*" who had been captured on Long Island  
[Note: The Van Cortlandts were an old, wealthy, and powerful Dutch family in New York. The Revolution endangered various of their properties, but **Pierre Van Cortlandt** (1721-1814) remained a steadfast patriot, serving in various leadership capacities in New York state government through the war and beyond.]
37. April 5, 1777 [121]  
Letter from Joshua Loring, British Commissary of Prisoners, at New York, to Washington, concerning exchange of certain American prisoners of war who were "*serving as Volunteers*", which requires the Americans to send a new, revised return of prisoners to be exchanged  
[Note: **Joshua Loring Jr** (1744-1789), a Boston-born loyalist, was British Commissary General for Prisoners, stationed at New York, from 1777 through 1783.]
38. April 29, 1777 [124]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot at Headquarters at Morristown, "*Concerning regulations of Congress for prisoners. Contains particulars as to location of prisoners, and suggests Boudinot send a responsible person to inspect each prison, etc.*"

39. May 1, 1777 [128]  
Letter from Jonathan Elmer at Philadelphia to Boudinot at Basking Ridge [New Jersey, location of the Boudinot family home], seeking assistance in obtaining the exchange of John Gibbon, Elmer's brother-in-law; explaining the circumstances
40. May 10, 1777 [132]  
Letter from Jonathan Trumbull, Paymaster General, at Albany, to Boudinot at Morristown, concerning documentation of accounts for Boudinot's department  
[**Note: Jonathan Trumbull** (originally Trumble) (1710-1785) of Massachusetts, played numerous public roles but is best known as Governor of Connecticut from 1769 to 1784, first as a British colonial governor and then as an American state governor. He served only briefly as Paymaster General, resigning in 1778 when his mother died.]
41. May 28, 1777 [134]  
Letter from Thomas Wharton Jr. at Philadelphia to Boudinot at Headquarters, "*Concerning bad conditions among American prisoners held by the British*"  
[**Note: Thomas Wharton Jr.** (1735-1778) was a Pennsylvania merchant and politician. Active in early Pennsylvania politics, he helped draft the state's first constitution. When it went into effect in March 1777, he became Pennsylvania's first "President" (equivalent to governor). A year after this letter, he died suddenly, at the age of 43.]
42. June 16, 1777 [138]  
Letter from William Atlee, [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at Lancaster to Boudinot, "*concerning distribution of money among British prisoners*" totaling "*fifty one Guineas, and one dollar in Continental Money*"  
[**Note: William Augustus Atlee** (1735-1793) was an attorney, born in Philadelphia but lived most of his life in Lancaster. As a leading patriot, and because **Lancaster**, along with Philadelphia, became an early, major destination for British and German prisoners of war, he became involved in managing the incarceration of prisoners of war at Lancaster. He served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster from 1776-1782. He also chaired Lancaster's Committee of Safety and Committee of Inspection and Observation during most of the war years, and served as a judge on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1777 to 1791. See the Atlee papers section of the DLAR microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts at the Library of Congress), which are included in this Finding Aid.]
44. June 19, 1777 [145]  
Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Sterling of the 42<sup>nd</sup> (Royal Highlander) Regiment, at Piscataway, [New Jersey] to Boudinot, concerning his sending "*such necessaries as I thought proper*" for the benefit of prisoners of war in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, as agreed to by Generals Washington and Cornwallis

45. June 24, 1777 [147]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot, *“Concerning the acceptance of British terms for exchange in order to release American prisoners from a very miserable condition”*
46. June 26, 1777 [151]  
Letter (written in the third person) from Boudinot at Camp at Quibbletown [New Jersey, in Piscataway township, just northwest of New Brunswick; perhaps Colonel Sterling (document 41) and Boudinot met there?] to Washington, that *“Reports the unsatisfactory and cruel treatment of prisoners in New York prisons”*; suggesting *“an Application to General [William] Howe [British Army Commander in North America] for Passport for an officer of the American Army, to visit all our Prisoners in Possession of the Enemy, and take their examinations in presence of a British Officer”* so that both sides will receive the same information
47. June 26, 1777 [155]  
Letter from Moses Bloomfield at the General Hospital at Mendham [New Jersey, west of Morristown], to Boudinot at Headquarters, recommending Mr. John Adams, a displaced New Yorker now living at Westfield, who is *“intirely out of Business with a Family to Support and is desirous of entering into the Service of his Country”*; suggesting that this person might be a useful assistant in the prisoner-of-war  
[**Note: Dr. Moses Bloomfield** (1729-1791) was a surgeon, an ardent abolitionist, and a committed patriot from Woodbridge Township, New Jersey.]  
[**Note:** The Mr. John Adams Bloomfield recommends is likely **John Adam**, who did indeed become a useful assistant to Boudinot and to subsequent Commissary Generals of Prisoners. He served as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, first in several locations up the Hudson River, north of New York, and later in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where his prisoner-of-war operation became the transit hub for the physical exchange of British/German prisoners of war incarcerated mostly in Pennsylvania for American prisoners of war incarcerated at New York City and on Long Island.]
48. July 2, 1777 [157]  
Letter from Jonathan Elmer at Philadelphia to Washington, concerning Elmer’s brother-in-law John Gibbon and the difficulties of obtaining exchanges, including Gibbon’s; seeking assistance
49. July 17, 1777 [161]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot, *“Concerning conduct of British prisoners and orders close observation of them”*

50. July 18, 1777 [163]  
Letter from James Duane at Philadelphia to Boudinot, concerning making payments of public money for the support of American prisoners of war in British prisons
51. July 19, 1777 [166]  
Letter from Joshua Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, at Hartford, to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war matters in Connecticut and other news  
**[Note: Joshua Mersereau (1728, 1734, or 1738-1804), his brother John Mersereau (1731-1820), and John's son John LaGrange Mersereau (1757 or 1760-1841), came from a French Huguenot family living on Staten Island. Before the Revolution, the brothers had started the first organized stagecoach service in America, between New York and Philadelphia. During the Revolution, Joshua and his brother John (at least briefly) served as Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners. The three were also apparently involved in a shadowy intelligence network established personally by George Washington but perhaps managed through Boudinot. In 1776-1777, Joshua Mersereau was living in Boston, from where he became involved in prisoner-of-war matters in Massachusetts as well as New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.]**
52. July 22, 1777 [170]  
Letter from Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut, at Lebanon [Connecticut, today a rural township west of Norwich] to Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Mersereau, with orders to move the recently captured British Major General Richard Prescott, commander of British forces at Newport [Rhode Island], from Lebanon to East Windsor [Connecticut, on the Connecticut River north of Hartford]; including note at bottom dated July 22, 1777, and signed by Mersereau, stating that "*I executed the above warrant agreeable to the Tenor of it*"
53. July 24, 1777 [172]  
Letter from Samuel Niles at Philadelphia to Boudinot, expressing that "*Notwithstanding the reasonableness of the proposal I brought from Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe for an exchange of Officers, & Gen<sup>l</sup> Washingtons sentiments concerning there with, the Congress have to my great surprise refused to comply with it*"; commenting on this "*Mark of their injustice & want of common Humanity*", begging that "*you will use every means in your powers to forward some supplys to the prisoners with all expedition*"; concerning other specific exchange situations [the identity of this Samuel Niles is not apparent from this correspondence; he does not appear to be a prisoner of war himself, but his authority to have delivered a proposal from General Howe is not clear]

54. July 24, 1777 [176]  
Letter from Thomas Wharton Jr., President of the Committee of Safety of the State of Pennsylvania, "*In Council*" at Philadelphia, to Boudinot, concerning the plight of American prisoners of war held by the British at New York; encouraging Boudinot to do more to supply the prisoners with food [see note after document 41]
55. July 24, 1777 [180]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot, instructing Boudinot to appoint immediately a deputy commissary of prisoners "*at Dumfries in Virginia where the Hessian Officers are situated*"; suggesting Mr. Daniel Clymer to fill the position, although "*He is a little outré now & then*"  
[Note: **Colonel Daniel Clymer** (1748-1810) served in late 1777 and early 1778 as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in the American Camp. In December 1777, he was appointed by Congress to be available temporarily to assume the duties of Elias Boudinot, Commissary General of Prisoners, in his absence. On January 17, 1778, he was apparently replaced as Deputy Commissary at Camp by Thomas Bradford. Whether he was actually assigned to Dumfries, Virginia as well is not documented in this correspondence.]  
[Note: **Dumfries, Virginia** is located up a side channel of the Potomac River just north of today's Marine Corps Base at Quantico. This location was used for prisoners of war only briefly. For safety purposes, Virginia's main prisoner-of-war camp was relocated westward, later in 1777, to Winchester.]
56. August 1, 1777 [185]  
Letter from Heman Allen at Salisbury [Vermont, south of Middlebury, in the home territory of the Allen family] to General Washington "*concerning exchange of his brother Ethan Allen*", stating that the bogged down negotiations for exchange of several high-ranking military officers, including British Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell and American Major General Charles Lee, has created an obstacle for exchange of Ethan Allen; hoping that the recent American capture of British Major General Prescott and his possible exchange for Charles Lee might help to resolve the impasse for Allen's exchange for Archibald Campbell; requesting renewed efforts by Washington toward a resolution  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell** of Killeen (1739-1791) was one of several Scottish Campbells, from different branches of the clan, who rose to high ranks in the British Army during this period. The exchange of Campbell for Allen was completed on May 8, 1778.]  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen** had been captured by the British during the American campaign against Canada in 1775. He remained a prisoner-of-war until Boudinot, who had visited with Allen as a prisoner in New York in February 1778, finally arranged his exchange for Campbell.]

**[Note:** This Prescott is not American Colonel William Prescott but British **Major General Richard Prescott** (1725-1788). He managed to become a prisoner-of-war twice during the Revolutionary War, first in 1776 as the Americans captured Montreal and second, more humiliatingly, being surprised getting out of bed in the house he was occupying in Rhode Island. His first exchange was routine, but the second was memorable, in that he was exchanged for American Major General Charles Lee, who also had been surprised and captured in bed.]

57. August 4, 1777 [188]  
Letter from Alan Cameron at Yellow Springs in Chester County [Pennsylvania, west of King of Prussia] to the Board of War "*requesting that he be moved to another place*"; and seeking approval for parole for him to go to New York
  
58. August 15, 1777 [191]  
Letter from Daniel Clymer at Philadelphia to Boudinot at Headquarters at Bucks County [Pennsylvania], stating that he has sent to Headquarters "*the disabled British Prisoners [of war] you mentioned to me*"; stating that a surgeon's report states their "*total Inability for other present or Future Service*" [see note after document 55 on Daniel Clymer's activities as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners]
  
59. August 16, 1777 [193]  
Letter from Clymer at Philadelphia to Boudinot, sending two additional disabled British prisoners of war to Headquarters
  
60. August 16, 1777 [196]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot, directing Boudinot to "*rent as many Houses in Worcester County...as may be necessary to secure the Prisoners until the Barracks can be built*"; concerning information "*that the Pris<sup>ts</sup> at York Town [York, Pennsylvania] were suffering for Want of Room*"
  
61. August 23, 1777 [199]  
Letter from Major General Thomas Mifflin at Reading to Peters, concerning removal of "powder & other Stores" from Lancaster to other locations, including Reading; stating that "*Lebanon & Reading are very insecure places for the Lodgment of the prisoners of war to be sent from Lancaster*"; stating that "*Bethlehem on the WB of Delaware [and Easton] is in my Opinion, extremely well calculated for the Reception of these*" prisoners  
**[Note: Major General Thomas Mifflin** (1744-1800) was a merchant and politician from Philadelphia. He served in many public capacities besides doing active duty in the Continental Army. He also spent time as Quartermaster General, served in the Continental Congress and as its President, and served on the 1787 Constitutional Convention. In Pennsylvania government, he was Speaker of the House, the last President of the Supreme Executive Council, and the first Pennsylvania Governor, under the 1790 Constitution, which he helped draft.]

62. August 24, 1777 [202]  
Letter from Mersereau at Elizabeth [New Jersey] to Boudinot at Headquarters, providing detailed information concerning prisoner exchanges as well as movement of troops and other military news  
[Note: **Joshua Mersereau** (1728, 1734, or 1738-1804), his brother **John Mersereau** (1731-1820), and John's son **John LaGrange Mersereau** (1757 or 1760-1841), came from a French Huguenot family living on Staten Island. Before the Revolution, the brothers had started the first organized stagecoach service in America, between New York and Philadelphia. During the Revolution, Joshua and his brother John (at least briefly) served as Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners. The Mersereau writing from Elizabeth in this letter might be John. Possibly this letter is not what it seems. The three Mercereaus were also apparently involved in a shadowy intelligence network established personally by George Washington but perhaps managed through Boudinot. This letter reads more like an intelligence report than a communication about prisoner-of-war matters.]
63. August 28, 1777 [205]  
Letter from Brigadier General John Campbell, at Headquarters on Staten Island, to Boudinot at Elizabeth, stating that "*the Protection of a Flag of Truce shu'd be forever inviolate*"; hoping that "*Mr. Mersereau's Treatment was not altogether so outrageous as represented*"; stating that "*my Sentiments in this Respect, shall be made known to the Troops under my Command*"; concerning exchange of "*inhabitants*" of New York, being arranged by Lewis Pintard [see document 154 and the note that follows in Reel 4 of the JSHA Collection, Elias Boudinot Papers, for more on John Campbell]  
[Note: This British General Campbell is **Brigadier General John Campbell** of Strachur (1727-1806—no direct relation to prisoner-of-war Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell, who, only a few weeks before, had before been exchanged for Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen). He commanded the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment and was in command at New York. Most recently, his troops had captured and destroyed Fort Montgomery in October 1777. Why he was inconveniently obstructing the provisioning of American prisoners of war at this moment is not clear from the correspondence. By October 1778, he had left this military theater, reassigned to command the British troops in Pensacola, West Florida.]
64. August 29, 1777 [209]  
Letter from William Livingston, Governor of New Jersey, at Princeton, to Boudinot, proposing exchange of 10 British prisoners of war, listed by name, who are confined at Morristown [New Jersey], for 10 named American prisoners of war



65. August 30, 1777 [211]  
 Letter from William Heath, speaking for the Council, at Boston, to General Washington, concerning the moving of British prisoners of war captured near Bennington to Boston; concerning the scarcity of provisions for them, as well as the inhabitants; suggesting that the Continental Army should take responsibility for providing the needed provisions; concerning other matters of the war  
**[Note: Major General William Heath (1737-1814)** of Massachusetts saw early action in the Continental Army but fell out of favor with General Washington. At this time, he seems to be acting as an official in Massachusetts government, in which he held several positions during and after the war. After British Lieutenant General Burgoyne's surrender in October 1777, Washington assigned Heath to manage the Convention Army of British prisoners of war, as negotiated on the battlefield in a "convention" between Generals Burgoyne and Gates.]
66. September 13, 1777 [215]  
 From Ezekiel Williams at Wethersfield [Connecticut] to Boudinot, reporting that Deputy Commissary of Prisoners Mersereau for Massachusetts had been in Hartford and that they both celebrated Boudinot's appointment as Commissary General of Prisoners [which had been made official in May]; describing in detail his early work, starting in 1775, on matters of prisoners of war in Connecticut; expressing his willingness to continue to serve in this capacity under Boudinot  
**[Note: Ezekiel Williams (1729-1818)** was a merchant from Wethersfield, Connecticut, a town south of Hartford on the Connecticut River. He served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Connecticut beginning in 1777.]
67. September 15, 1777 [219]  
 Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, adding to his description of his work the provision of clothing to prisoners of war; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters, including capture of some Tories
68. September 26, 1777 [222]  
 Letter from [loyalist prisoner of war] John Duyckinck at Easton [Pennsylvania] to Major General [Nathanael] Greene or, in his absence, the Commander in Chief, having been told to prepare to march to Dumfries, Virginia, requesting instead that he be allowed to remain at his home; admitting, but now regretting having signed an oath of allegiance to Britain  
**[Note: Major (later Colonel) John Duyckinck (1734-1812)** was a member of a Dutch family that had settled in New Amsterdam in 1638. He apparently joined the British Army and was captured sometime in early 1777. He was at first imprisoned at Philadelphia. By mid-1777, he had been paroled, first at Reading and then at Easton. In January 1779, he finally was granted his wish of being released from parole to his home in Lamington, New Jersey, northwest of New Brunswick. Why he chose to direct this letter to General Greene is not apparent from this correspondence.]

69. October 10, 1777 [226]  
Letter from E. Gerry at York [Pennsylvania] to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning a Mr. Wilson, British officer prisoner of war, who is “destitute” and wishing to be exchanged; also concerning Mr. Allen McDonald, [British prisoner of war], who also deserves exchange; seeking assistance on behalf of these “*gentlemen*”; Mr. Wilson’s request also endorsed on the side of the letter by John Penn [former colonial governor of Pennsylvania, who at this time was in “exile” in New Jersey while Philadelphia was held by the British, and the American government was operating out of York] [see a related letter in the Boudinot Letterbook 1777-1778, document 64]  
[**Note:** The E. Gerry of this letter is possibly **Elbridge Thomas Gerry** (1744-1814) of Massachusetts, although nothing in the context of this letter clearly points in this direction.]
70. October 21, 1777 [228]  
Letter from Pickering [while still Adjutant General of the Continental Army; see note after document 35], at Headquarters at White Marsh [Pennsylvania] to Boudinot at Basking Ridge, informing Boudinot that the prisoners from Lieutenant General John Burgoyne’s surrendered army will be sent to Massachusetts, probably because it is “*near at hand*”, but the prisoners’ final destination is not yet settled; expressing support for “*the Jersies*” to supply shoes for the army; reporting on settlement by the Continental Army at White Marsh after losing Philadelphia to the British, and on future military plans of the army  
[**Note:** Leading up to the loss of Philadelphia, the two armies had fought the **Battle of Brandywine** (September 11, 1777), the **Battle of Paoli** (the night of September 20-21) and the **Battle of Germantown** (October 4). Before this last battle, British General William Howe’s troops had already occupied Philadelphia unopposed on September 26. After the loss of Philadelphia, the Continental Army rested at **White Marsh**, Pennsylvania, about 20 miles north of Philadelphia, where they fought a last, inconclusive battle in early December before moving to nearby **Valley Forge**, where the army endured the long winter of 1777-1778.]  
[**Note:** In 1777, Boudinot bought a house, still standing today, in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Located southwest of Morristown, it became his family home while the British occupied New York to the north and Philadelphia to the south.]  
[**Note:** Shortly after the bad news for Americans at Philadelphia, good news arrived from **Saratoga**, New York, where, on October 17, British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne had surrendered his army to American Major General Horatio Gates, yielding almost 6,000 new British prisoners of war.]

71. October 23, 1777 [232]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning Atlee's brother and three others, who had been captured and imprisoned by the British on Long Island, concerning the possibility of negotiating his exchange following the recent battle at "*Chadd's Ford*" [Brandywine]; reporting that most of the British prisoners of war at Lancaster and Reading "*are chiefly gone to Virginia*" [Note: William Atlee's brother was **Colonel Samuel John Atlee** (1739-1796). He had been captured as indicated here, during the Battle of Long Island in August 1777 and was not exchanged until August 1778.]
72. November 2, 1777 [236]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot at Camp, informing Boudinot that Congress has directed Governor George Clinton of New York to work the lead mines in his state for Continental Army use and that, if insufficient workmen are not available, Boudinot is to provide prisoners of war to do the work, starting with Tory prisoners
73. November 4, 1777 [238]  
Letter from Daniel Clymer at Easton to Boudinot at Headquarters, reporting on prisoner-of-war matters
74. November 4, 1777 [240]  
Letter from Henry Lee at Dumfries, Prince William County, to Peters at the War Office at York, concerning the management of parole for officer prisoners of war in Virginia  
[Note: The author of this letter appears to be **Henry Lee III** (1756-1818), of "Light-Horse-Harry" fame, born near Dumfries, and then a Captain in the Virginia Dragoons. He went on to be a leading politician and military leader following the war, as well as being the father of Robert E. Lee of Civil War fame.]
75. November 7, 1777 [244]  
Letter from Peters at the War Office to Boudinot at Camp, requesting an account of the number of "*Tradesmen particularly Shoemakers among the Prisoners of War & where & with whom they are employed*"; requesting that he procure a similar list for American prisoners of war from the British Commissary of Prisoners
76. November 7, 1777 [246]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning the need for barracks and other prisoner-of-war matters

77. November 8, 1777 [250]  
Letter from James Tilton, surgeon, at Princeton, to Boudinot, having received one British and 33 German prisoners of war, all wounded and "*in a most deplorable situation*", seeking help in providing humane care to them  
[Note: Dr. James Tilton (1745-1822) was a physician and soldier from Delaware. He saw active duty in the Revolutionary War's early battles. After the Battle of Princeton in January 1777, he became head of military hospitals for the Continental Army, serving in this capacity through the war.]
78. November 14, 1777 [253]  
Letter from [loyalist prisoner of war] John Duyckinck at Easton to Boudinot, disturbed that his release has not been approved and that a false complaint seems to have been made against him for taking stores and for corresponding with the enemy
79. November 14, 1777 [257]  
Letter from [Rev.] James Caldwell at Springfield [probably New Jersey] to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning supplying the army with shoes and difficulties financing for it
80. November 14, 1777 [259]  
Letter from President of the Continental Congress Henry Laurens at York to Boudinot, sending Boudinot the Congress's resolution "*relative to Wages of Seamen & Mariners taken on board of British Vessels & to all Masters Officers Mariners & all Subjects of the King of Great Britain made prisoners from & after the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1777*"; also directing that Boudinot appoint a Deputy Commissary for each state
81. November 19, 1777 [262]  
Petition from four American prisoners of war in the Provost Jail at New York, to Major General Valentine Jones, Commandant of the City of New York, describing the inadequacies of their treatment and accommodations; seeking that they will either be "*rigorously treated, or be allowed the priveledge of a Parole*"; signed by Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen, Major Levi Wells, Major Brinton Paine, and Major Oth [?] H. Williams
82. November 28, 1777 [265]  
Letter from H. Hugh Ferguson, [British] Commissary at Philadelphia, to [Boudinot], stating that an error of \$5.00 exists in the money sent to him; stating that "*The private Soldiers complain much for want of Cloathing. Indeed they are in a miserable Situation*"; detailing what is lacking and is needed  
[Note: Henry Hugh Ferguson was a loyalist from Pennsylvania who worked for the British during their occupation of Philadelphia as Commissary of Prisoners, assigned to General William Howe's army. When Howe's troops evacuated Philadelphia in June 1778, Ferguson left America to live in England.]

83. December 1, 1777 [268]  
Letter from Mersereau at Hartford to Boudinot at Headquarters, updating Boudinot on construction of barracks at Rutland [the prison camp at Rutland, Massachusetts, northwest of Worcester]; stating that clothing is available for prisoners of war, but it is not getting to them; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
84. December 3, 1777 [272]  
Letter from Elisha Boudinot to his brother Elias Boudinot, sending various news, including prisoner-of-war news and other war news  
**[Note: Elisha Boudinot (1749-1819)** was the brother of Elias Boudinot, who served as the first Commissary General of Prisoners for the U.S. from 1776 to 1778. Like his brother, Elisha, who settled in Newark, was an early revolutionary leader. He served as secretary of the New Jersey Council of Safety in 1777. In December 1778, the month of this letter, the New Jersey Legislature appointed him Commissary of Prisoners for New Jersey. He went on to practice law in Newark, rising to serve as an associate judge of the New Jersey Supreme Court from 1798-1804.]  
**[Note:** Hereafter in this Reel, “Boudinot” refers Elias Boudinot, while Elisha Boudinot refers to his brother.]
85. December 4, 1777 [276]  
Proclamation from the Council and the Assembly of New Jersey in joint meeting, to John Witherspoon, Nathaniel Scudder, Abraham Clark, Jonathan Elmer, and Elias Boudinot, entreating these gentlemen, New Jersey’s delegation to the Continental Congress in 1778, to maintain high standards of moral endeavor, under God, as they pursue the great cause of the United States; itemizing in nine points specific recommendations for actions to further that cause, including efforts to exchange American prisoners of war held by Britain; signed by John Stevens, Chairman
86. December 5, 1777 [280]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters
87. December 13, 1777 [284]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot, enclosing “*some lists of prisoners*”, as requested [not microfilmed here]

88. December 13, 1777 [288]  
Letter from George Lindenberger at Baltimore to Peters at the War Office, reporting a “*disagreeable affair...with the Hessian Prisoners which have been brought here from Lebanon by one Rich<sup>d</sup>. Lemon in behalf of a Comp<sup>y</sup> for working a Salt work, to Engage which he had obtained liberty from the Board of War*”; the issues being related to security and treatment of the prisoners and the legitimacy of the company’s operations; followed by a note, written apparently by Peters, that “*Mr. Boudinot to be desired to take Order in this business*”
89. December 19, 1777 [296]  
Letter from British Commissary of Prisoners Ferguson at Philadelphia to Boudinot, warning Boudinot about the consequences of not providing sufficient provisions to British prisoners of war
90. December 28, 1777 [298]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war and other matters
91. December 31, 1777 [302]  
Letter from Atlee at Lancaster to Boudinot, concerning forwarding wagons of flour for the use of [presumably American] prisoners of war [presumably in Philadelphia]
92. [no date] [306]  
United States account of “*Joshua Mersereau Staten Island*” with entries from August 20, 1777 through May 16, 1778; followed by United States account “*of Elias Boudinot Esquire To Joshua Mersereau*” with entries and notes dated from March 12, 1777 through January 28, 1789
93. January 5, 1778 [316]  
Letter from [Rev.] James Caldwell at Elizabeth to [Boudinot], concerning the acquisition of shoes, corn, and grain for prisoners of war
94. January 21, 1778 [320]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] W. Peterson at Somers, Connecticut [a small town northeast of Hartford], to [Boudinot], concerning his disappointment that what he thought was an approved parole had been “countermanded”, seeking redress

95. January 23, 1778 [323]  
Letter from William Govett, at the Treasury Office at York, to Boudinot, stating the Treasury Board's desire, concerning numerous bills of exchange "*drawn by a Number of Brittish Officers Prisoners, on their Friends of Agents, mostly in London, for the repayment of money advanced them in Connecticut by direction of Congress*" that they should be used "*for the benefit of our People that are prisoners with the Enemy, provided they can be negotiated without making the Publick liable for damages in case they should be returned for non Payment*"
96. January 28, 1778 [326]  
Letter from Thomas Bradford, [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at Camp at Valley Forge, to Boudinot, reporting on actions he has taken in relation to prisoners of war during Boudinot's absence from Camp; listing letters he is forwarding to Boudinot; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters  
**[Note:** In the documents that follow on this Reel, "Bradford" refers to **Colonel Thomas Bradford, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners (Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners** after October 19, 1780) at Philadelphia. For more on Bradford and his family, see notes after Reel 5 documents 530 and 590 in the Bradford Papers, part of the JSHA Collection.]
97. February 3, 1778 [330]  
Letter from [Governor of New Jersey] William Livingston at Morristown to Boudinot, concerning American prisoner of war Jeromy James Gibbon, captured at Fort Washington and now a prisoner of war on Long Island, who wrote to Livingston begging him "*to supply him with ten barrels of flour by the first flag*"; seeking Boudinot's assistance with this request
98. February 9, 1778 [333]  
Letter from Williams at Wethersfield to Boudinot, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters, including some war news
99. February 20, 1778 [337]  
Letter from Thomas Hartley at York to Boudinot, knowing that a general exchange is planned, seeking assistance, as Hartley says Boudinot had promised, to include in it the exchange his brother-in-law Lieutenant Jacob Holtzinger, in Swope's Pennsylvania 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of the Flying Camp, who had been captured at Fort Washington; also seeking assistance for the exchange of Major William Bayley of the same regiment

**[Note: Colonel Thomas Hartley** (1748-1800) lived in York, Pennsylvania. Early in the Revolutionary War, he was second in command of the 6<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Regiment. Early in 1777, he organized a separate “Hartley’s Regiment,” which he commanded in battles including Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown. In Reel 8 in the Peter Force Collection, Atlee Papers (included in this Finding Aid), several letters Hartley wrote from the front, dated between September 15 and December 17, 1777, are found scattered between documents 7 and 38. These letters contain personal perceptions and observations about the Continental Army’s military actions at Brandywine, Paoli, Germantown, and White Marsh.]

**[Note: the Flying Camp** was an early mobilization of state militias, mostly from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware, under the command of Brigadier General Hugh Mercer of Virginia, designed as an active, mobile reserve to back up the nascent Continental Army. **Michael Swope**, a civilian and former member of the Pennsylvania Council of Safety, organized and commanded his own 1<sup>st</sup> Flying Cloud Regiment. Most of the Regiment’s troops were captured in the November 1776 capture of Fort Washington by the British. Yet the Regiment apparently continued in name until 1780.]

100. February 28, 1778 [341]  
Letter from Hartley at York to Boudinot, concerning prisoners of war Jacob Holtzinger and William Bayley [document 99], noting that the general exchange is delayed, nevertheless seeking assistance now in getting these two prisoners exchanged; offering to pay for 25 barrels of flour to be sent for their use in prison in New York
101. March 5, 1778 [343]  
Letter from British Brigadier General John Campbell at Headquarters on Staten Island, to Boudinot at Elizabeth, concerning their agreement for exchange of prisoners of war; pointing out “*that the Fundamental qualities in prisoners to be released or exchanged are that they shall be Innocent, Inoffensive, Peaceable Inhabitants*”; requesting information concerning the exchange of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell and Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen
102. March 8, 1778 [347]  
Letter from Robert Livingston at Manor Livingston [the Livingston family home north of Rhinebeck, New York] to Boudinot, concerning the supply and price of flour to be provided to prisoners of war; complaining that “*the Merchants about the Country have bought up almost all the grain, the farmers had*”, thus raising the cost of what is available; reporting having advised John Adam [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Elizabeth] of where to find available flour



103. March 8, 1778 [351]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment at Concord [perhaps in Pennsylvania, east of Chadd's Ford] to Boudinot, concerning his parole; expressing "*astonishment*" at the "*Silence from General Howe on the proposition offered relative to Col Allen's exchange*" and at other failures to arrange his exchange; stating that, under the circumstances, "*surely, Sir, I might have some claim to urge at this juncture, on the principles of common Justice, permission to retire immediately on Parole*"
104. March 9, 1778 [355]  
Letter from [British prisoner of war] Gunning Bedford, at Swan Tavern, Philadelphia, to Boudinot, concerning his exchange, which he wishes to proceed without difficulty.
105. March 16, 1778 [358]  
Letter from Colonel Robert H. Harrison to Boudinot, concerning a payment due to a Mr. Horton  
[**Note:** This is probably **Lieutenant Colonel Robert Hanson Harrison** (1745-1790), a Virginia attorney, who served as General Washington's military secretary. He was apparently not related to the "famous" Benjamin Harrison family.]
106. March 16, 1778 [361]  
Letter from Henry Haller, [Deputy Commissary of Prisoners] at Reading, to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning prisoner-of-war matters  
[**Note:** **Henry Haller** (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 through sometime in 1782.]
107. March 17, 1778 [365]  
Letter from Harrison to Boudinot, concerning paroles and exchanges and other prisoner-of-war matters
109. March 19, 1778 [372]  
Extract of letter from Colonel [Richard] Humpton at Bethlehem to Boudinot, concerning exchange and parole of British prisoner of war Captain Thomas Webb, formerly Barrack Master at Albany, who seeks a pass to go to Philadelphia to arrange for his exchange

110. March and April 1778 [various dates] [375]  
Copies of three letters from Bradford, as follows:  
March 31, 1778  
Letter from Bradford to H. Hugh Ferguson [British commissary of prisoners at Philadelphia], requesting a passport to convey "*two shallop loads of Flour from below Willmington*" to Philadelphia to feed American prisoners of war there; followed by  
April 10, 1778  
Letter from Bradford to H. Hugh Ferguson, requesting a response, not yet received, to Bradford's March 31 letter; followed by  
April 10, 1778  
Letter from Bradford to Thomas Franklin, concerning 20 barrels of flour, long since needed to feed American prisoners in Philadelphia but held up by "unnecessary delays"  
**[Note: Thomas Franklin** was a Quaker merchant, apparently not a relative of Benjamin Franklin, who assisted in providing supplies and provisions for prisoners of war.]; followed by  
April 9, 1778  
Letter from Bradford to Robert Haughey [Commissary of the Delaware Militia], asking him to "*find four or five wagon lods of Flour*" despite the difficulties of getting them sent into Philadelphia
111. April 6, 1778 [378]  
Letter from Captain Alexander Graydon at Reading to Boudinot at Camp, concerning assistance in obtaining the exchange of British prisoner of war Captain Lenox
112. April 11, 1778 [382]  
Letter from Bradford at Camp at Valley Forge to Boudinot at Newtown [Pennsylvania], concerning sending supplies to Philadelphia, still having not received a reply to his March 31 letter to Ferguson; enclosing letters; reporting on receiving 11 or 12 prisoners from Trenton, which he sent on to Lancaster
113. April 11, 1778 [385]  
Letter from Haller at Reading to Boudinot at Headquarters, concerning a certain, Adam Boate, about seventeen years old, "*the son of a noted Torry Family*", who has no pass and thus has been imprisoned
114. April 14, 1778 [387]  
Letter from Alan Cameron at Philadelphia to Boudinot, acknowledging receipt of his parole; requesting his arms, especially his pistols
115. April 20, 1778 [390]  
Letter from Archibald Campbell at Morristown to Boudinot, seeking permission to go to New York or Philadelphia on parole, seeking to help along the negotiations to exchange him for Ethan Allen

116. April 22, 1778 [394]  
Letter from Lieutenant Wilmot at Lancaster to Boudinot, requesting that his portmanteau be sent to him; requesting that three detained officers in an “*unhappy situation*” be permitted to go to Philadelphia on parole until exchanged; note at bottom in same handwriting states that “*Mr Wilmot has received twenty Guineas, sent to Mr Atlee*”
117. April 27, 1778 [396]  
Letter from H. Hugh Ferguson at Philadelphia to Boudinot, sending American prisoners of war for exchange, “*which liquidates the Balance due for Artificers*”; also stating that “*I also return the Horse Fenwick brought in, inclosed is an Account of his price which I beg you’ll transmit me as soon as possible*” followed by  
April 27, 1778  
Account, from H. Hugh Ferguson, of price for horse “*I paid Geo. Tos. Fenwick*” [see also document 119 below and document 565 in Reel 5 of the Bradford Papers in the JSHA Collection]
118. April 29, 1778 [400]  
Draft letters from Boudinot at Elizabeth, as follows:  
To Brigadier General John Campbell, concerning the details of completing Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell’s exchange, including requesting passports for Archibald Campbell and Boudinot to go New York to finalize the process; followed by  
To John Winslow [of New York, later commissary for the city], concerning finalizing Archibald Campbell’s and Ethan Allen’s exchange
119. April 29, 1778 [403]  
Letter from H. Hugh Ferguson to Boudinot, proposing exchange of American Captain Saunders, captured master of an American vessel, for British Captain Charles Sloan, captured master of the British Navy brigantine Howe; repeating his request for payment for Fenwick’s horse
120. April 30, 1778 [407]  
Letter from British Major of Brigade James Campbell, at Headquarters at Staten Island, to Boudinot at Elizabeth, stating General Sir Henry Clinton’s and Brigadier General John Campbell’s consent for Boudinot to go to New York to conclude the exchange of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell for Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen; stating that John Winslow will bring Ethan Allen to the exchange, and he will be allowed to return to Elizabeth on the vessel in which Boudinot will come to New York, bringing Archibald Campbell
121. April 30, 1778 [410]  
Letter from Brigadier General John Campbell, at Headquarters at Staten Island, to Boudinot at Elizabeth, adding his own approbation and orders for the exchange of Archibald Campbell and Ethan Allen

## Container 2

[414]

123. May 11, 1778 [418]  
Letter from Henry Laurens, president of Congress, at York, to Boudinot at Valley Forge, concerning election of Colonel Francis Johnson to succeed Boudinot as Commissary General of Prisoners  
**[Note:** The identity of Colonel Francis Johnson (or Johnston) is not certain but was perhaps Colonel Francis Johnston of Pennsylvania (1748-1815), who settled in Chester following the war. No record is found in this correspondence of his having taken office or having made decisions as Commissary General. Before the end of May 1778, **Colonel John Beatty** was actively functioning in this position, which he held until September 1780.]
124. May 22, 1778 [420]  
Letter from Archibald Campbell at New York to Boudinot at Basking Ridge, on behalf of the men of the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment who remain prisoners of war in Massachusetts, Hartford, and Virginia; hoping for their quick release
125. May 26, 1778 [424]  
Receipt from [Rev.] James Caldwell to Boudinot, for payment of \$1,319.50 for 377 pair of shoes sent to the army
127. June 5, 1778 [431]  
Letter from Tench Tilghman at Headquarters to Boudinot, concerning particular prisoner of war exchange situations  
**[Note: Tench Tilghman** (1744-1786) served as an aide de camp to General Washington, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His Maryland family split between Patriots and Tories.]
128. June 13, 1778 [434]  
Letter from Richard Stockton at York to Timothy Pickering [at the War Office], concerning prisoner of war exchange situations  
**[Note: Richard Stockton** (1730-1781) was a wealthy and staunchly Patriot resident of Princeton, New Jersey. An attorney, he served as a judge before the war and then on the Second Continental Congress, during which time he signed the Declaration of Independence. His wife was Annis Boudinot, sister of Elias. In November 1776, he was roused from his bed by loyalists and delivered to the British, who imprisoned him. Because he refused to accept General William Howe's offer of pardon for those swearing allegiance to Britain, he was treated brutally until released on parole in January 1777. As this letter indicates, he continued, following this horrible experience, to offer active support to the Patriot cause. However, his health had been compromised in prison, and he died in 1781.]

129. June 14, 1778 [436]  
Pickering at the War Office to Boudinot at Valley Forge, concerning a general prisoner of war exchange, about which he is positive but has thoughts on how it should proceed
130. June 29, 1778 [438]  
Letter from Theophylact Bache at Morristown to Boudinot, concerning prisoner-of-war exchanges  
[Note: **Theophylact Bache** (1734-1807) was a New York merchant who remained a loyalist during the Revolution. His role in prisoner-of-war exchanges in this instance is not clear.]
131. July 1, 1778 [441]  
Letter from Bradford to Boudinot, reporting on a mission to Admiral Lord Richard Howe on exchange of [marine] prisoners
133. July 17, 1778 [448]  
Letter from Rev. James Caldwell at Springfield to Boudinot, concerning arrival of animals (for meat) and other provisions and clothes; requesting that Boudinot send money
135. October 30, 1778 [456]  
Accounts of money from Boudinot to Pintard “*for Sundry Supplys furnished the following American Officer Prisoners of War [at New York] as of their Acct*”; list by name (alphabetically), rank, state, regiment, company, and amount of expense for 321 officer prisoners of war, with total reported expenses of £21,225.0.3; signed by Pintard
144. March 14, 1782 [484]  
Draft of report by Boudinot to General [Henry] Knox and Gouverneur Morris, “*Comm<sup>rs</sup> for negotiating Cartel*”, “*on the state of prisoners of war in the various prisons while he was Commissary General of Prisoners*”, reporting on his activities in 1777 and 1778  
[Note: **Major General Henry Knox** (1750-1806) of Massachusetts and member of Congress **Gouverneur Morris** (1752-1816) of Pennsylvania were assigned in early 1782 to negotiate with the British large-scale exchanges of prisoners of war, a mission that failed. In this report, Boudinot sought to provide background information from his experiences in 1777 and 1778 to assist the Knox-Morris efforts. At this time, Knox served through most of the war in the Continental Army, had just been promoted to Major General, and went on to serve in the new United States Army. He served as the first U.S. Secretary of War from 1789 to 1794. Morris was originally from New York but had moved to Philadelphia, where he was a merchant and politician. At this time he was also serving as Assistant Superintendent of Finance for Pennsylvania. In 1787 he played a leading role as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.]

## **Note on Documents in this Reel of Boudinot Papers from the Library of Congress not Pertaining to Prisoners of War**

This Finding Aid includes only documents that pertain to prisoners of war. Through document 121 (the end of Container 1), most of the documents pertain to Boudinot's activities as Commissary General of Prisoners, from which he resigned in May 1778. A few prisoner-of-war documents (in Container 2) are dated later than that, until October 30, 1778 (document 135). In addition, document 144, dated March 14, 1782, is a retrospective report by Boudinot on his actions as Commissary General in 1777 and 1778.

Between 1773 and 1778, the few non-pow documents microfilmed on this Reel pertain to Boudinot's personal and business matters.

After a gap with no documents dated in 1779 or 1780, most documents dated in 1781 through 1783 (documents 137 through 179) pertain to Boudinot's service as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress. Between November 1782 and November 1783, Boudinot served as President of the Congress. Major subjects in this correspondence include:

- war news—mostly good news after Yorktown in 1781;
- negotiation of the Paris Peace Treaty, including correspondence with General Washington, General Rochambeau, John Jay in Paris, Francis Dana in St. Petersburg, Benjamin Franklin in Paris, Henry Laurens in London, John Adams in Paris, and U.S. Secretary of Foreign Affairs during his period, Robert Livingston (about whom see the note after document 208 in Reel 4 of the Boudinot Papers in the Johannes Schwalm Collection); and
- the so-called Pennsylvania Mutiny in June 1783, (a soldiers' protest for pay which led the U.S. Government to vacate Philadelphia for first Princeton, New Jersey, then Annapolis, Maryland, then Trenton New Jersey, then New York City, and finally, under the Constitution of 1787 (crafted back in Philadelphia) in the newly established federal District of Columbia.

After another gap with no documents in 1784, a few more private and business items (documents 179-190) that are scattered between 1785 and 1812 complete the Reel—with the exception of document 184, a Congressional Proclamation issued by President Washington on October 28, 1795, naming Boudinot to be Director of the U.S. Mint, and signed by his old compatriot Timothy Pickering "*now executing the office of Secretary of State.*"

**Elias Boudinot Letterbook, 1777-1778**  
Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents  
**State Historical Society of Wisconsin,**  
**Division of Archives & Manuscripts**  
(microfilmed in 1978)  
DLAR Microfilm Set 567 (1 Reel)

# Reel 1

April 17, 1777 to March 28, 1778                      Documents 3 to 160                      [Frames 3-96]  
(Source: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Archives & Manuscripts)

**Note: DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. **Frame Numbers** appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. [no date] [0]  
Handwritten on cover page: "*Letter Book Commissary General of Prisoners in the Army of the United States of America*"; note at bottom right "*Mickley Sale Oct. 1878*" [intentionally microfilmed twice]
2. 1878 [2]  
Handwritten note on first page: "*These letters were written by Elias Boudinot Commissary General of Prisoners in Revolutionary War. D S Durries Librarian State Histor Svc of Wis*"  
[Note: **Elias Boudinot** (1740-1821), a Philadelphian and friend of Benjamin Franklin, was appointed in April 1777 by General Washington to oversee American prisoner-of-war affairs as Commissary General of Prisoners. His appointment included a commission as colonel in the Continental Army. Before this time, the various colonies, had dealt with prisoners of war on their own, in their own ways. Boudinot resigned as Commissary General in May 1778, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a delegate from New Jersey to the Continental Congress but perhaps also for reasons of ill health.]
3. April 17, 1777 [3]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown [New Jersey] to General George Washington, concerning beginning his work since being appointed Commissary General of Prisoners; seeking information about expenses to date

4. April 17, 1777 [3]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown to the Secretary of the War Office [Richard Peters], seeking the War Office's assistance in his new position and stating his early intention of appointing Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners in the various states  
[Note: **Richard Peters** served as secretary to the Board of War and for its administrative arm, the War Office, for most of the war.]
5. April 30, 1777 [4]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to Joshua Loring, Commissary General for Prisoners in the British Army at New York, beginning working relationship with his British counterpart; thanking him for a return (list) of American prisoners exchanged and of officers who had deserted from their parole [return not microfilmed here]; replying to questions about the status of an exchange involving British Lieutenant Colonel Greene; concerning other specific exchange situations  
[Note: **Joshua Loring Jr** (1744-1789), a Boston-born loyalist, was British Commissary General for Prisoners, stationed at New York, from 1777 through 1783.]
6. May 5, 1777 [4]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown [New Jersey] to Lewis Pintard at New York, concerning possibilities for exchange of particular American prisoners of war held in New York; enclosing letters to and money for a few individual prisoners  
[Note: **Lewis Pintard** (1732-1818) was a wealthy merchant from New York City also related to the Boudinot family by marriage through the family of Richard Stockton, New Jersey signer of the Declaration of Independence (In 1759, Pintard had married Richard Stockton's sister Susanna; she died before the Revolution in 1772. Meanwhile, Richard Stockton had married Elias Boudinot's sister Annis.) In May 1777, while Pintard was still living in New York, Boudinot, America's new Commissary General of Prisoners, appointed him Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for New York City. However, he was unable to serve. The British refused to recognize his appointment, and by November, he was forced to move from British-occupied New York. However, he continued actively to assist in prisoner-of-war matters until at least May 1778, when Boudinot resigned as Commissary General of Prisoners, and this line of correspondence was discontinued.]
7. May 22, 1777 [5]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown to Loring at New York, concerning exchange situations of particular American prisoners of war



8. May 26, 1777 [5]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown to Loring, concerning Pintard's having reported that the British had declined to recognize his appointment as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for New York and that he would not be allowed to stay in the city; stating that Pintard's performing commissary of prisoners duties in New York was thought to be similar to David Franks' performing similar duties for British prisoners of war held by the American army, to which General Washington had agreed; seeking to clarify rules and working relations with the British on prisoner-of-war matters
9. May 26, 1777 [7]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown to Pintard, concerning difficulties getting Pintard approved as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at New York; concerning the sending of provisions into New York for the benefit of American prisoners of war
10. June 28, 1777 [7]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook [New Jersey] to David Franks, British Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia, concerning prisoner of war Sergeant George MacKay of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, held at Lancaster, and a bag of "necessaries" to be sent to him, along with other goods for other prisoners [frame 7 intentionally microfilmed twice]  
[Note: After spending the winter of 1776-1777 at Morristown, the Continental Army moved to Middlebrook (south of Morristown in Bridgewater Township) from May to July 1777 after a surprise British attack threatened the army's security at Morristown.]  
[Note: **David Franks** (1720-1794), a loyalist merchant from Philadelphia, served for a relatively short time as British Commissary of Prisoners before proving a lack of competence and being imprisoned by the Americans.]
11. June 30, 1777 [7]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to Richard Peters at the War Office, sending copy of letter from Colonel Mayer [?] "*in order that the Board of War may be possessed of every Information relative to our unhappy Prisoners in Possession of the Enemy*"; seeking support from the War Board to obtain food and clothing for these prisoners
12. June 30, 1777 [9]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to Franks at Philadelphia, sending 31 guineas for particular British prisoners of war, requesting acknowledgement of receipt [frame 9 intentionally microfilmed twice]

13. June 30, 1777 [9]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to Robert Kushing [probably Cushing] at Philadelphia, describing the new position of deputy commissary of prisoners, specifically the one assigned at Philadelphia, and asking whether Cushing or Mr. Searle would be interested in the position [neither was appointed; instead, Thomas Bradford soon became Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia (later Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners) and served through most of the war]
14. June 30, 1777 [9]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to James Mease at Philadelphia, concerning clothing for American prisoners of war held at New York
15. July 1, 1777 [9]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to Pintard, concerning various specific prisoner-of-war matters; enclosing money for certain prisoners; concerning general prisoner-of-war issues, including an uncompleted agreement with Loring for a general exchange and efforts to obtain clothing for the prisoners of war [frame 10 intentionally microfilmed twice]
16. July 1, 1777 [11]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to [American prisoner of war] Colonel Robert Mayers [Meyers?] at Long Island, requesting that he provide an accurate and complete return of his regiment; stating that "*the Distress of our Prisoners give the greatest uneasiness to all your Friends here, and you may depend upon it, that every possible measure is taking for your speedy relief and you will hereafter, I hope find, that you have not been forgotten*"
17. July 9, 1777 [11]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Morristown to Reverend Gordon [perhaps in Rhode Island?], requesting that he provide certain military intelligence, about which he is known to have information, to the bearer of this letter, Joshua Mersereau, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Massachusetts  
**[Note: Joshua Mersereau (1728, 1734, or 1738-1804), his brother John Mersereau (1731-1820), and John's son John LaGrange Mersereau (1757 or 1760-1841), came from a French Huguenot family living on Staten Island. Before the Revolution, the brothers had started the first organized stagecoach service in America, between New York and Philadelphia. During the Revolution, Joshua and his brother John (at least briefly) served as Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners. The three were also apparently involved in a shadowy intelligence network established personally by George Washington but perhaps managed through Boudinot. In 1776-1777, Joshua Mersereau was living in Boston, from where he became involved in prisoner-of-war (and other intelligence) matters in areas of New England.]**

18. July 9, 1777 [11]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to "*The President of the State of Massachusetts Bay*" requesting that he provide to Mersereau, bearer of this letter, information on the "*exact State of the Prisoners of War with you*"; expressing hope for an exchange of prisoners soon
19. July 9, 1777 [11]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to Governor Trumbull [of Connecticut], seeking Trumbull's assistance to Mersereau, bearer of this letter, "*in obtaining proper accounts of the Prisoners of War, in your State*"; expressing hope for an exchange of prisoners of war soon  
[Note: **Jonathan Trumbull** (originally Trumble) (1710-1785) of Massachusetts, played numerous public roles but is best known as Governor of Connecticut from 1769 to 1784, first as a British colonial governor and then as an American state governor. He also served briefly as Paymaster General, resigning in 1778 when his mother died.]
20. July 8, 1777 [12]  
Copy of appointment by Boudinot of John Adam of New Jersey to serve as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners  
[Note: After early service as a deputy commissary connected to the Continental Army, **John Adam** was reassigned to Elizabeth, New Jersey, where he played a key role until the end of the war, managing the logistical process of prisoner exchanges by moving British/German prisoners from locations mostly in Pennsylvania (especially Philadelphia and Lancaster) to New York, while moving American prisoners from New York City, the British prison ships, and Long Island to Elizabeth where they were released.]
21. July 9, 1777 [12]  
Copy of instructions from Boudinot for John Adam, newly appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, including 11 numbered instructions concerning his duties to obtain provisions for prisoners of war and to take actions, as ordered, toward exchanges of prisoners of war; including orders to "*repair to the Eastern Division of the Army of the United States of America, now under the Command of Major General Putnam*" and obtain specific orders from him  
[Note: **Major General Israel Putnam** (1718-1790) of Massachusetts commanded the American troops at Bunker Hill (successfully) and Long Island (unsuccessfully) but suffered a stroke in 1779 that ended his military career.]
22. July 9, 1777 [13]  
Copy of "*Instructions [from Boudinot] for Joshua Mersereau*", deputy commissary of prisoners for Massachusetts, including 10 numbered instructions concerning his duties, including seeking guards and a barracks, and including immediately going to Connecticut to meet with Governor Trumbull to learn the state of and accounts for prisoners of war in his state

23. [no date] [14]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to [British prisoner of war] Lieutenant Charles Gordon of the 70<sup>th</sup> Regiment at Dunstable, Massachusetts, responding to his request for parole to go to New York; stating that the request “*has been referred by the Gen<sup>l</sup> [Washington] to me as falling properly within my department*”; stating that he will be able to grant the requested parole as soon as he obtains approval of the Council of the State or the commanding officer of the Continental Forces, in whatever form is specified
24. July 14, 1777 [14]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Princeton to Peters at the War Office, concerning Loring’s actions toward Pintard related to Pintard’s efforts to convey provisions to American prisoners at New York; stating that he understands “*that it is Gen<sup>l</sup> [William] Howe’s wish to have an exchange take Place*”; seeking to support this happening
25. July 22, 1777 [15]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at the Close [near Newark, New Jersey] to Henry Haller at Reading [Pennsylvania], seeking to recruit Haller to serve as deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading  
**[Note: Henry Haller (1731-1793) was a prominent tailor and innkeeper in Reading. He held a number of local public offices, served in the Continental Army, and was deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading from sometime in 1777 through sometime in 1782.]**
26. July 22, 1777 [15]  
Copy of appointment by Boudinot to Haller as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Reading
27. July 22, 1777 [15]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at the Close to Peters at the War Office, informing Peters of his appointment of Haller as deputy commissary of prisoners at Reading [Frame 15 intentionally microfilmed twice]
28. July 24, 1777 [17]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at the Close to [British] Colonel Joseph Barton at Staten Island, concerning the exchange of Mr. Pettit, “*I am instructed to inform you that his Ex<sup>ty</sup> [General Washington] cannot admit of any formal application of this kind, or enter into any Agreement for carrying your proposal into Execution but with an officer having the Command of the district or Place from which he applies*”

29. July 24, 1777 [17]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at the Close to Franks at Philadelphia, enclosing previous letter to Franks dated June 30, 1777 [perhaps referred to in document 12]; stating that a certain "*cash of letters*" [perhaps to American prisoners of war], which had been conveyed to Philadelphia, had not been allowed to be delivered and thus had been delayed
30. June 16, 1777 [17]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to Peters, disagreeing with a "*hint*" from the War Office that Boudinot should appoint only two deputy commissaries of prisoners, one in Massachusetts and one at Philadelphia; expressing the need for additional deputies
31. June 19, 1777 [17]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to the President of the Counselors [the Council] of New York, stating that planned exchange in January of John Fell (one of the counselors of New York) for Mr. Wallace and Mr. Philips had not been approved by General Howe; reporting his seeking to take other approaches for an exchange  
[Note: This may refer to **Judge John Fell** of New Jersey. Known to the British as a "Tory Hunter," he had been captured and was imprisoned in New York.]
32. June 19, 1777 [18]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to Connecticut Governor Trumbull, requesting that he order all British prisoners of war from New York on parole in Connecticut to return, to facilitate a new exchange
33. June 19, 1777 [18]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Middlebrook to the President of the Council of Massachusetts, seeking to know when the barracks promised by Massachusetts to house prisoners of war will be completed; requesting expense statements from Massachusetts for prisoner-of-war expenses.
34. July 5, 1777 [18]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Morristown to Robert L. Hooper at Easton, stating that "*As there are Prisoners of War frequently sent on to Lancaster by way of Easton, and it is not worth while, going to the Expense of a stated Commissary for the purpose of providing them with Provisions, thus, I must beg you*" to supply provisions to prisoners of war coming through Easton [Frame 18 intentionally microfilmed twice]  
[Note: **Robert Lettis Hooper Jr** (c. 1730-1797) of New Jersey served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Easton from sometime in mid-1777 through May 1780, when he lost his job because of suspicions he was a Tory. He also served as a Deputy Quartermaster General for a region around Easton from 1776 until 1780, when this job was abolished in a reorganization.]

35. July 5, 1777 [20]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Morristown to Lieutenant William G. Foster of the 55th Regiment, [British] prisoner of war at White House [perhaps today's Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, northwest of Brunswick and Bridgewater], stating that because he has abused the privilege of his parole, it is being withdrawn
36. July 10, 1777 [20]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Pumpton [perhaps today's Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, northwest of Paterson] to Pintard at New York, sending clothing and some money, itemized per named recipient for American prisoners of war at New York
37. July 26, 1777 [20]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Peekskill to Colonel William Livingston, seeking his assistance in getting approval for a sloop load of flour to be delivered to Pintard for the American prisoners of war  
**[Note:** This "Colonel" William Livingston may be the Governor of New Jersey. Although he enrolled in the New Jersey Militia with a state rank of Brigadier General, he did not see active duty.]
38. July 27, 1777 [20]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Peekskill to Pintard, concerning payment for living costs of American prisoners of war; expressing surprise at the British instance of not accepting local American currency; concerning delivery of the flour coming to Pintard on a sloop
39. August 11, 1777 [21]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Philadelphia to William Augustus Atlee at Lancaster, offering him appointment as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster; explaining the need and the duties; instructing Atlee to be ready to send all the prisoners he now has, along with those at Reading, toward the head of the Chesapeake, where an enemy fleet is expected to arrive soon; sending an order from the Pennsylvania Executive Council for guards at Lancaster; ordering arrangements for an exchange of Alexander McNeal, prisoner of war at Lancaster, who is to be sent to Easton, for Robert Nugent of Colonel [Samuel] Miles' Battalion; Hooper at Easton is to arrange the exchange at [Perth] Amboy [New Jersey]; informing Atlee that he had appointed Haller to a deputy commissary position at Reading; with itemized enclosures [not microfilmed here] [original in Atlee Papers, Peter Force Collection, Reel 8 document 1]

**[Note: William Augustus Atlee** (1735-1793) was an attorney, born in Philadelphia but lived most of his life in Lancaster. As a leading patriot, and because **Lancaster**, along with Philadelphia, became an early, major destination for British and German prisoners of war, he became involved in managing the incarceration of prisoners of war at Lancaster. He served as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Lancaster from 1777-1782. He also chaired Lancaster's Committee of Safety and Committee of Inspection and Observation during most of the war years, and served as a judge on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1777 to 1791. See the Atlee papers section of the DLAR microfilms in the Peter Force Collection (manuscripts at the Library of Congress), which are included in this Finding Aid.]

40. August 14, 1777

Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Warminster [Bucks County, Pennsylvania] to Colonel Samuel Miles at Philadelphia, explaining the actions of Congress to put prisoner-of-war matters in General Washington's hands, and of his decision to put Boudinot in charge of prisoner-of-war operations; stating his presumption that Miles will cooperate in making Boudinot's operations run smoothly

**[Note: Colonel Samuel Miles** (1740-1805) was a military man and politician. Captured during the Battle of Long Island, he was involved in the exchange of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell for Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen. Later, he served as a Quartermaster. After the war, he was active as a politician.]

[22]
41. August 14, 1777

Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Warminster to Mersereau, concerning Mersereau's duties in New England; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters

[22]
42. August 14, 1777

Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Bucks County to John Adam, with the Continental Army at Peekskill, concerning delays and "obstacles" placed by the British to make difficult the provisioning of American prisoners of war at New York

[23]
43. August 18, 1777

Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Bucks County to Peters, reporting that Mersereau has reported no progress on building a barracks for prisoners of war in Massachusetts or Connecticut [Frame 23 intentionally microfilmed twice]

[23]
44. August 16, 1777

Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Bucks County to Pintard, concerning the delay delivering the sloop with flour for American prisoner-of-war provisions and plans for paying for it; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters [Frame 25 intentionally microfilmed twice]

[25]

45. August 26, 1777 [27]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Elizabeth [New Jersey] to Pintard at New York, stating that he has come to Elizabeth to await a response from the British concerning the provisioning of American prisoners of war at New York; making the case that the British had promised to cooperate in this regard but now are not; concerning other prisoner of matters
46. August 27, 1777 [27]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Elizabeth to British Brigadier General [John] Campbell at Staten Island, concerning the recent delivery by American officials of several "maimed" British prisoners of war at Staten Island; concerning capture by the Americans of a number of British prisoners of war, who could be exchanged for American prisoners of war
47. August 28, 1777 [28]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Elizabeth Ferry to British Brigadier General Campbell, stating that Campbell's continuing obstacles against provisioning and exchanging American prisoners of war will have a negative effect on the conditions and status of British prisoners of war
48. September 28, 1777 [28]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp Pennsylvania [location not clear in this correspondence] to Pintard, sending money for certain American prisoners of war at New York; concerning the similarly needy situation of both British prisoners of war and American prisoners of war
49. September 30, 1777 [29]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Shippack [on a creek with that name between White Marsh and Valley Forge] to General Howe, stating that, since the British think their prisoners of war are in poor condition, the British are welcome to send provisions to them [large X written through this letter, apparently by the writer, suggesting that it was not sent]
50. October 6, 1777 [29]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to Loring, stating complaints about the treatment of American prisoners of war, especially lack of medical attention and adequate clothing, in relation to the conditions agreed to by Generals Howe and Washington; suggesting a partial exchange
51. October 19, 1777 [29]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Adjutant General of the Continental Army Timothy Pickering, expressing elation at reports of the American victory over British Lieutenant General Burgoyne; concerning putting prisoners of war to work, such as making shoes; concerning other war matters



[**Note:** In 1777, Boudinot bought a house, still standing today, in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. Located southwest of Morristown, it became his family home while the British occupied New York to the north and Philadelphia to the south.]

[**Note: Timothy Pickering** (1745-1829) was from Massachusetts. Early in the war, he served as Adjutant General of the Continental Army. In November 1777, he was appointed to the War Office but also continued as Adjutant General until January 1778. Following the war, he served in several important U.S. national-government positions in the 1780s and 1790s, including Secretaries of State and War and Postmaster General. During the early 1800s, he served in the U.S. Congress for most of 14 years.]

[**Note:** British **Lieutenant General John Burgoyne** had led an army southward from Canada, seeking to split the rebellious colonies along the Lake Champlain-Hudson River line, thus isolating New England. He got as far as **Saratoga**, north of Albany, but was defeated there in two successive engagements with the American army led by Major General Horatio Gates between September 19 and October 7, 1777. As a result, Burgoyne was forced to surrender his remaining troops, who numbered nearly 6,000.]

52. November 3, 1777 [30]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Pintard, concerning the delivery of food to American prisoners of war at New York and paying for it; concerning the great number of new prisoners of war resulting from Burgoyne's surrender; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
53. November 3, 1777 [31]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Loring, concerning various specific proposed exchanges and prisoner-of-war matters in several places where British prisoners of war are incarcerated; seeking to encourage exchanges
54. November 12, 1777 [32]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to the "*Commissary of Prisoners in the British army in Philadelphia*", informing him that conditions of British prisoners were poor and that winter clothing especially was needed for them; suggesting that the British might wish to respond to this need  
[**Note:** William Howe's British Army had occupied Philadelphia on September 26, 1777, having defeated General Washington's Continental Army successively at Brandywine, Paoli, and Germantown. British prisoners of war held by the Americans in Philadelphia were removed to other locations, and the British refilled the Philadelphia prison with American prisoners of war. Then, when the British Army evacuated Philadelphia in June 1778, the prisoner population in Philadelphia reversed again. During the British occupation, Boudinot and his deputies sought diligently, against British suspicion and lack of cooperation, to supply food and clothing for American prisoners of war in Philadelphia.]

55. [various dates] [33]  
Notes by Boudinot:  
"28 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1777 Wrote to Isaac Zane [?], W<sup>m</sup> Atlee, W<sup>m</sup> Haller & Rob<sup>t</sup> L. Hooper for Return of all prisoners..."  
"Sent Isaac Zane his Deputation for State of Virginia dated 6 Sept 1777"  
"Sent Ezekiel Williams his Deputation for the State of Connecticut dated 14<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1777"  
"Sent Nov<sup>r</sup> 14 1777 to L<sup>t</sup> Woodson 21/For..[?] 1 Guinea 8 Dollars Humphrey Bale 4 Dollars & Baggs of necessities, Baggage of 9 Regiments"  
[Note: Atlee, Haller, Hooper, and Williams all served as Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners under Boudinot, and extensive correspondence is found in this Finding Aid by and to each of them. Apparently Isaac Zane was appointed in October but by December had resigned. See document 78. No correspondence of Zane appears in the documents covered by this Finding Aid.]
56. November 18, 1777 [33]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp near Philadelphia to Pintard, concerning getting permission from General Howe to send flour from Brunswick and from Maryland or Virginia to New York; sending money for certain suppliers
57. November 13, 1777 [33]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to Hooper, requesting a return of particular prisoners of war at Easton; concerning other particular prisoner-of-war matters  
[Note: Letters of this date contain apologies from Boudinot for having delayed responding because of a recurring fever. By May 1778, Boudinot had resigned as Commissary General of Prisoners, officially to focus on his responsibilities as a New Jersey delegate to the Continental Congress, but perhaps also because of poor health.]
58. November 13, 1777 [34]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to [loyalist prisoner of war] Major Duyckinck at Easton, stating his decision to extend the parole of Duyckinck despite "*the Various Complaints ag<sup>t</sup> you from Easton*"  
[Note: **Major (later Colonel) John Duyckinck** (1734-1812) was a member of a Dutch family that had settled in New Amsterdam in 1638. He apparently joined the British Army and was captured sometime in early 1777. He was at first imprisoned at Philadelphia. By mid-1777, he had been paroled, first at Reading and then at Easton. In January 1779, he finally was granted his wish of being released from parole to his home in Lamington, New Jersey, northwest of New Brunswick.]
59. November 13, 1777 [34]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to [British prisoner of war] Major Gloucester [Gloucester?], concerning reported "*distress of the English Prisoners at Easton*", reports which Boudinot intended to forward to Loring

60. November 13, 1777 [35]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at camp to “*Ab. B. Banker*”, who had been appointed by New York state officials as a commissary of prisoners, explaining that Boudinot now has sole appointment authority, and that he had already appointed John Adam as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at Peekskill
61. November 13, 1777 [35]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to Atlee, stating that he will do what he can for Atlee’s brother [Samuel John Atlee], as William Atlee had requested, but that “*every obstacle that can be used by Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe is thrown in the way to prevent an Exchange*”; including examples
62. November 13, 1777 [35]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to Mersereau, reveling in the “*glorious News from the Northward*” [of Burgoyne’s surrender]; recognizing the new challenges of providing for such a large number of additional prisoners of war; stating that he is seeking passports for flour from Maryland to be sent to New York; requesting that he send a “*return of all Prisoners under your Care*”; expressing concern over receipt of “*the most shocking Acc<sup>t</sup> here of your Extravagancies in the Prices of every Article—what is to become of us, I know not, unless some immediate Stop can be put to this abominable Extortion*”
63. November 13, 1777 [36]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to John Adam, asking for a return of all prisoners under his care; requesting that Adam send newspapers [Frame 36 microfilmed twice]
64. November 13, 1777 [36]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to E. Gerry, concerning Messrs. Wilson and McDonald, about which Boudinot states that Gerry has been misinformed and that nothing can be done to help them at this time [see a related letter in Boudinot’s correspondence in the Schwalm Association Collection, Library of Congress Manuscripts, document 69, plus the note following it.]
65. November 13, 1777 [38]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Peters, reporting having returned to camp and attending to important matters of a possible exchange and plans for him to go to New York to pursue the hoped for exchange

66. November 14, 1777 [38]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to Mersereau, upset about "*the treatment I rec<sup>d</sup> from the Board of War relative to the Barracks*" [in Boston] and planning to report to Congress about this; stating that all Mersereau can do now is to rent a house or a vessel; requesting a return of all prisoners under his care; including war news about the Battle of Germantown; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
67. November 14, 1777 [39]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at White Marsh to Ezekiel Williams, conveying his appointment as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in Connecticut [Note: **Ezekiel Williams** (1729-1818) was a merchant from Wethersfield, Connecticut, a town south of Hartford on the Connecticut River.]
68. November 24, 1777 [39]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Pennsylvania to Loring, concerning details of trying to move along particular exchanges of prisoners of war; concerning how Burgoyne's captured troops, now in Massachusetts, will be able to be fed "*if I am not permitted to send [flour] from Virginia or Maryland*"; hoping for a general exchange, to relieve the poor condition of prisoners of war on both sides; sending lists of British prisoners of war to be considered for exchange
69. November 24, 1777 [40]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Pennsylvania to Pintard, concerning difficulties in providing clothing for prisoners of war and efforts to procure clothing; enclosing money for use with particular exchanges on Staten Island [Frame 40 intentionally microfilmed twice]
70. November 25, 1777 [40]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Captain McKerris, secretary to General Howe, concerning delivery of clothing for American prisoners of war contained in two saddlebags; also an accounting of money owed for the care of 9 named prisoners of war
71. December 4, 1777 [42]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Colonel Elisha Lawrence, concerning payment of a debt, which Boudinot requests be paid to Pintard so it can be used to help American prisoners of war at New York [Frame 42 intentionally microfilmed twice]  
[Note: This appears to be the young **Elisha Lawrence** (1746-1799) who became active in Monmouth County and New Jersey politics after the Revolutionary War. In 1790 he served briefly as Acting Governor of New Jersey, following the long service of Governor William Livingston.]

72. December 14, 1777 [42]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Reading to Mersereau, stating that officer prisoners of war who are in New Hampshire and Massachusetts should be sent to Rhode Island in anticipation of a possible officer exchange; with details of prisoner-of-war matters; including news of Continental Army's situation after Germantown
73. December 14, 1777 [44]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Reading to Hooper, concerning the jurisdiction of civil courts over prisoners of war and other prisoner-of-war matters
74. December 4, 1777 [45]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Hooper, requesting a return of prisoners of war at Easton, concerning complaints that prisoners of war at Easton "*are being allowed to go at large*" when prisoners at other locations cannot; asking Hooper to confine all of his prisoners
75. December 1, 1777 [45]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Williams at Wethersfield, instructing Williams to send all his officer prisoners of war to New York by water in anticipation of an exchange, with details
76. December 1, 1777 [46]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp near Germantown to [British prisoner of war] General Prescott, informing him about the expected officer exchange, from which he could potentially benefit  
[Note: This is British **General Richard Prescott** (1725-1788). He managed to become a prisoner-of-war twice during the Revolutionary War, first in 1776 as the Americans captured Montreal and second, more humiliatingly, being surprised getting out of bed in the house he was occupying in Rhode Island. His first exchange was routine, but the second was memorable, in that he was exchanged for American Major General Charles Lee, who also had been surprised and captured in bed.]
77. December 1, 1777 [46]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to [British] prisoner of war D. William Peterson in Connecticut, stating that he will be allowed to return to New York, but only after he has paid the debt owed by him to Boudinot to Williams or to Pintard
78. December 22, 1777 [46]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York [Pennsylvania] to Richard Graham [an agent for the Americans to David Franks, British Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia], concerning the resignation of Isaac Zane as a Deputy Commissary of Prisoners; expecting to ask Joseph Holmes to become Deputy Commissary of Prisoners in Virginia

[**Note:** **York**, Pennsylvania, across the Susquehanna River from Lancaster, served as home of the Continental Congress from September 1777 to June 1778, during the British occupation of Philadelphia.]

[**Note:** **Colonel Joseph Holmes** (1746-1806) was a merchant from Winchester, who was, soon after this letter, appointed to be Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia. Based at the prisoner-of-war prison at Winchester, he also supervised the large prison at Frederick, Maryland and temporary stays of prisoners of war at Fredericksburg, Virginia.]

79. December 22, 1777 [47]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York to William Buchanan, seeking assistance in purchasing flour to be sent via New Castle [Delaware] to Philadelphia to feed American prisoners of war held there
80. December 23, 1777 [47]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York to Mersereau, telling him that Congress has delayed and altered the plan for an officers exchange, which changes the plan to congregate prisoners of war in Rhode Island
81. December 23, 1777 [47]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York to Williams, telling him that Congress has delayed and altered the plan for an officers exchange, which changes the plan to congregate prisoners of war in Rhode Island
82. December 23, 1777 [48]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York to Holmes concerning his appointment as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Virginia
83. December 23, 1777 [48]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York to George Lindenberger at Baltimore, requesting that British prisoners of war in Baltimore be sent to Deputy Commissary of Prisoners at York, Thomas Peters  
[**Note:** **Thomas Peters** (apparently not directly related to Richard Peters at the War Office) served as Deputy Commissary for a prisoner-of-war prison or camp at York. In practice, this smaller facility seems to have been under the supervisory control of the Lancaster Deputy Commissary, William Atlee.]
84. December 23, 1777 [48]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at York to Thomas Johnson, Governor of Maryland, asking his assistance in naming a well qualified candidate to become Deputy Commissary of Prisoners for Maryland  
[**Note:** **Thomas Johnson** (1732-1819) was a prominent attorney and jurist in Maryland and a political and constitutional leader of his state during the revolutionary period. He served as the first governor of the State of Maryland and later as an associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.]

85. December 30, 1777 [49]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to John Adam, seeking his assistance in getting flour to New York for prisoners of war via Pintard; concerning a letter from Congress to New York Governor Clinton, requesting that he “*give you all the aid in his Power*”; including details and other prisoner of war matters  
[Note: **George Clinton** (1739-1812) was governor of New York from 1777 until 1795. Later, he served as Vice President of the United States from 1805 to 1812.]
86. December 30, 1777 [49]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp Valley Forge to Peters at the War Office, reporting on efforts to help the “*suffering Bretheren*”, American prisoners of war at New York and other prisoner-of-war matters
87. December 29, 1777 [50]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Thomas Franklin, asking Franklin to become involved in helping to convey provisions to American prisoners of war at Philadelphia  
[Note: **Thomas Franklin**, apparently not directly related to Benjamin Franklin, was a prominent Quaker merchant in Philadelphia. As a humanitarian Quaker, he actively assisted efforts to procure and convey provisions for American prisoners of war incarcerated at Philadelphia during the British occupation.]
88. December 31, 1777 [50]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to H. Hugh Ferguson [British Commissary of Prisoners at Philadelphia], seeking to arrange for provisions to be allowed passage, by ship, up the Delaware River to Philadelphia, to supply the needs of American prisoners of war at Philadelphia, stating that the provisions will be delivered by Thomas Franklin; enclosing a return listing about 2,400 British prisoners of war ready for an exchange, with details about where they are held; stating that “*Gen<sup>l</sup> Prescott and other british officers from Connecticut are gone into New York*”, in anticipation of exchange [extract from this letter is found in Schwalm Association Collection, Boudinot Papers (Historical Society of Pennsylvania), Reel 4 document 64]  
[Note: **Henry Hugh Ferguson** was a loyalist from Pennsylvania who worked for the British during their occupation of Philadelphia as Commissary of Prisoners, assigned to General William Howe’s army. When Howe’s troops evacuated Philadelphia in June 1778, Ferguson left America to live in England.]

89. December 29, 1777 [51]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Loring, having received Loring's return of American prisoners of war eligible for exchange, expressing disappointment that certain individuals were said to have gone to Canada and others to have joined the British Army, stating that "*I cannot see why they should not be Exchanged*"; concerning some particular prisoners of war; expressing hope that having sent General Prescott and other British officers in Connecticut to New York will yield quick results in accomplished exchanges
90. December 29, 1777 [52]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to James Neilson at New Brunswick [New Jersey], asking him to acquire and provide whatever wheat he can to send to American prisoners of war
91. December 28, 1777 [52]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Robert Haughey "*12 Miles below Newark in New Castle County*" [Delaware], concerning supplying flour for American prisoners of war at Philadelphia
92. December 29, 1777 [53]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Pintard, concerning providing provisions for American prisoners of war at New York
93. December 30, 1777 [53]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Williams, concerning the need for a barracks for prisoners of war in Connecticut; concerning efforts for an exchange
94. December 30, 1777 [54]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Mersereau, concerning a barracks in Connecticut; concerning the condition of British prisoners of war held in Massachusetts
95. January 4, 1778 [54]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Henry Hollingsworth at Wilmington [Delaware], enclosing two passports for his use in conveying flour into Philadelphia, with details  
**[Note: Henry Hollingsworth (1737-1803), a native of the Head of Elk area, was a leader in the Maryland militia and active as a supplier for the Continental Army.]**
96. January 3, 1778 [55]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Robert Haughey in New Castle County, concerning delivery of flour for American prisoners of war at Philadelphia



97. January 6, 1778 [55]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Hooper, informing him that "*Congress has passed a resolve that All Provisions found for the British prisoners shall be paid for in hard Money,*" which he is seeking to get altered because of the "*insufficiency*" of hard money; expressing his concerns about treating all the prisoners of war as well as possible; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
98. January 7, 1778 [56]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Atlee, concerning the delivery of flour to American prisoners of war at Philadelphia and other prisoner-of-war matters; concerning his inability, yet, in helping to get Atlee's brother exchanged
99. January 8, 1778 [57]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp sent to Thomas Franklin, stating that "*twelve fat Cattle*" will be delivered for prisoners of war
100. January 8, 1778 [57]  
Copy of note from Boudinot to Ferguson, enclosing a return of German prisoners of war in the hospital at Princeton but now being sent to Easton; seeking news on possible exchanges [Frame 57 intentionally microfilmed twice]
101. January 8, 1778 [57]  
Copy of note to [British prisoner of war] Major William Edminister of the 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment at Philadelphia, concerning payment of £48.15 toward the two-dollar-per-week allowance for a prisoner of war, which must be paid before the prisoner can be exchanged
102. January 9, 1778 [57]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to William Goval, General Secretary to the Treasury Board, concerning his expenses on prisoner-of-war matters
103. January 9, 1778 [59]  
Copy of letter from Robert Haughey at St. Georges [Hundred], New Castle County [Delaware], sending him passports and money for the delivery of food for American prisoners of war at Philadelphia, with a postscript that "*Since writing the above, Gen<sup>l</sup>. Howe has forbid any more Provisions in by water you will therefore Stop your Hand [?] for the present till you hear from me*"; instructing him to try sending flour by road if possible
104. January 2, 1778 [59]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Holmes, pursuant to an agreement by Generals Washington and Howe to release all officer prisoners of war on parole, instructing Holmes to send all the officer prisoners under his care to Lancaster, including details

105. January 20, 1778 [59]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to [British prisoner of war] Colonel Sheffer in Virginia, responding to his letter to General Washington; stating that, since there will be a general exchange of officers, he should go immediately to Lancaster
106. January 10, 1778 [60]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Ferguson at Philadelphia, stating that he has been trying to have delivered, via the Delaware River, to the American prisoners of war at Philadelphia, "*7 or 800 Barrells of Flour, a Ton of Indian Meal; 20 or 30 Cords of Wood & a few Careases [?] of Beef & Pork*", but that General Howe has written General Washington that such deliveries will not be allowed, so that "*I shall therefore put a stop to it*"; stating that, as of February 1, "*you will supply all your Prisoners with us west of New Jersey with every kind of Provisions sent out from your Lines*"; prohibiting British agents from purchasing provisions or clothing locally for British or German prisoners of war; stating that "*If any Inconvenience should arise to the unfortunate Prisoners on this Acc<sup>t</sup>. it cannot be chargeable on us*" [extract from this letter is found in Schwalm Association Collection, Boudinot Papers (Historical Society of Pennsylvania), Reel 4 document 64]
107. January 11, 1778 [61]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Peters at the War Office, concerning his efforts to send provisions to American prisoners of war at Philadelphia, General Howe's prohibition of any more such deliveries, and his response that the British will have to provision their own prisoners of war starting February 1
108. January 11, 1778 [61]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Jesse Hollingsworth or Colonel Henry Hollingsworth at the Head of Elk, telling them that General Howe will no longer allow water delivery of provisions for American prisoners of war at Philadelphia; instructing him to send flour, pork, and beef via land instead  
[Note: The **Head of Elk**, now Elkton, Maryland, is located at the head of navigation on the Elk River at the far northeastward extension of Chesapeake Bay, pointing toward Wilmington and Philadelphia.]
109. January 16, 1778 [61]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Joshua Mersereau, informing him that Boudinot has "*at last sent off two waggons with one Ton of Bar Iron purchased of Mr James Hockley of Glasgow Forge for £150 proc: [processed?]*", which was all he could get; concerning other commissary difficulties  
[Note: The **Glasgow Forge** operated from about 1750 to 1848 in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, near Pottstown.]

110. January 16, 1778 [62]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Williams, repeating his instruction that all British officer prisoners of war under his care should be sent to New York for upcoming exchange; concerning various other prisoner-of-war matters
111. January 17, 1778 [63]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to John Covenhoven at Monmouth County, New Jersey, concerning flour and wood to be sent to American prisoners of war at New York
112. January 17, 1778 [63]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Robert Dodd at Flemington [New Jersey], asking that he send as much flour, Indian corn, beef, and pork as possible to Elizabeth
113. January 19, 1778 [64]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Colonel Chamberlain at Trenton, asking that he send whatever provisions he can provide or purchase, as he had promised, to help feed the American prisoners of war at New York; with details
114. January 19, 1778 [64]  
Draft copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Loring, considerably edited by the writer, enclosing paroles for certain British prisoners of war in anticipation of exchange; concerning other prisoner exchange matters
115. January 20, 1778 [65]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Elizabeth to British General Sir Henry Clinton, seeking permission to visit and provision the “*distressed*” American prisoners of war at New York  
**[Note: General Sir Henry Clinton** (1730-1795) succeeded General William Howe (1729-1814) as British Army Commander in Chief in North America in May 1778. Howe had been commander in chief since 1775, when he succeeded General Thomas Gage. In 1777, Clinton was second in command under Howe. When Howe sailed with his army to capture Philadelphia, he left Clinton in charge of British New York. This explains why Boudinot wrote this letter to Clinton rather than Howe.  
Howe resigned in October 1777, following the mixed results of that year’s British campaign (victory at Philadelphia; defeat at Saratoga), complaining of insufficient support from England. Although Clinton was named his successor in February 1778, Howe’s resignation was not officially accepted until April, and Clinton could not officially assume command until Howe left for England on May 24. Thus, an awkward transition period lasted from February through most of May. However, all of this came after Boudinot’s January 20, 1778 letter to Clinton.]

116. January 19, 1778 [65]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Pintard, telling Pintard that Boudinot is doing everything he can to get provisions to the American prisoners of war, with details; including accounts of expenses
117. January 21, 1778 [66]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Newark [New Jersey] to Thomas Bradford, seeking his help in getting provisions to American prisoners of war at Philadelphia and New York [copy in Schwalm Collection, Bradford Papers, Reel 5 document 547]  
**[Note: Thomas Bradford (1745-1838),** was appointed Deputy Commissary of Prisoners by the Continental Congress on January 17, 1778. Thomas came from an old and prominent Philadelphia family, whose father, William Bradford (1721-1791) was an influential printer and publisher beginning in the 1740s. Thomas' brother, William Bradford (1755-1795), was an attorney in Philadelphia, who married Susan Boudinot, daughter of Elias Boudinot. As Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, Bradford was initially assigned to "Camp," the mobile headquarters of the Continental Army. When the British evacuated Philadelphia in June 1778, Bradford was reassigned to supervise the prisoner-of-war operations in that city, at the so-called New Jail. This grew to become the Americans' largest prisoner-of-war operation, including both soldiers and seamen prisoners of war. On October 19, 1780, Bradford's more substantial prisoner-of-war responsibilities in Philadelphia were officially recognized when he was promoted to the new position of Deputy Commissary General of Prisoners.]
118. January 21, 1778 [66]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Newark to John Adam, concerning sending into New York provisions for American prisoners of war there
119. January 22, 1778 [66]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Elizabeth to British Lieutenant General John Campbell or the commanding officer at Staten Island concerning permission for delivery of flour, beef, and wood to American prisoners at New York; expressing the hope for exchanges  
**[Note: Lieutenant (later Brigadier) General John Campbell** of Strachur (1727-1806) commanded the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment and was now commanding at New York. Most recently, his troops had captured and destroyed Fort Montgomery in October 1777. By October 1778, he had left this military theater, reassigned to command the British troops in Pensacola, West Florida.]
120. January 27, 1778 [67]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Elizabeth to Pintard, concerning delivery of beef for American prisoners of war at New York; requesting a return of all prisoners there

121. January 27, 1778 [67]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to [British prisoner of war] Colonel [Archibald] Campbell, stating, in response to Campbell's request, that he is doing all he can to arrange exchanges but that General Howe had not approved them  
[Note: **Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell** of Killeen (1739-1791) was one of several Scottish Campbells, from different branches of the clan, who rose to high ranks in the British Army during this period. Lieutenant (later Brigadier) General John Campbell (no direct relation) was the commanding British general who, in May 1778, negotiated with Boudinot Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell's exchange for American Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen.]
122. February 21, 1778 [67]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at "New Jersey" to Robert Livingston, seeking his assistance in obtaining and sending to New York "*any Quantity under Twenty thousand Bushells [of wheat], at the regulated Price*"  
[Note: **Robert Livingston** (1746-1813) came from the wealthy New York Livingston family and spent much of the Revolutionary War living on the family estate, north of Rhinebeck on the Hudson River. New Jersey's Governor William Livingston was a distant relative. Livingston served as the first Chancellor (top judicial official) of the State of New York and U.S. Secretary of Foreign Affairs during negotiation of the Paris Peace Treaty in 1783. Later, as U.S. Minister to France, Robert Livingston negotiated the Louisiana Purchase.]
123. February 21, 1778 [67]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at "New Jersey" to John Nicole at New Windsor [New York, south of Newburgh], seeking his assistance in purchasing "*a Quantity of wheat for the use of our unhappy Prisoners in the City—Pray do all you can, as it is much wanted*"
124. February 21, 1778 [68]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to John Adam, instructing Adam to purchase as much wheat as possible, up to 20,000 bushels, to send to Pintard for use by the American prisoners of war at New York; concerning an exchange
125. February 21, 1778 [68]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Mersereau, instructing him to find Captain Joseph Royal Loring of the ship *Lady Gage*, taken by an American vessel off of Massachusetts, and to take him to Newport, Rhode Island to be exchanged; also hoping to exchange Lieutenant Colonel Campbell soon
126. February 23, 1778 [68]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Basking Ridge to Arenal Dunham, requesting that he provide "*about three or four Cattle*" for American prisoners of war at New York, and asking for better quality cattle this time

127. February 4 [24?], 1778 [68]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at New York to Pintard, stating displeasure at the prices being charged for armaments [for American officer prisoners of war?]; ordering Pintard to purchase no more armaments but only “*plain Regimental Cloathing*”
128. March 2, 1778 [69]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Thomas Peters, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters and conditions
129. March 4, 1778 [69]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Atlee, congratulating him on his brother’s return [from being a prisoner of war]; asking Atlee to help pay for provisions being sent to American prisoners, if he has any [public] money; asking Atlee to establish a hospital for prisoners of war at Lancaster; asking him to prepare about 250 German prisoners of war at Lancaster for possible exchange
130. March 2, 1778 [70]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Ferguson, seeking to open up permitted routes for provisions to be sent to American prisoners of war at Philadelphia; conveying the request of General Charles Lee [American prisoner of war] to be sent from New York to Philadelphia by land, not sea, since he “*objects to such a Voyage at this time of the year*”  
**Note:** **Major General Charles Lee** (1732-1782) had earned a reputation as a headstrong and sometimes foolhardy man—and general. In December 1777, he had been captured by a British patrol tipped off that he was staying overnight, unprotected, at a tavern in Basking Ridge, New Jersey (coincidentally Boudinot’s home town). In May 1778, Lee was exchanged for British **Major General Richard Prescott** (1725-1788), who had been captured in Rhode Island under similar embarrassing circumstances.]
131. March 7, 1778 [70]  
Note by Boudinot “*Wrote to Gov. Henry of Virginia to send in [British] Capt. Goodrich for [American] Capt. Truvene [?]....*”  
**[Note:** This is the firebrand patriot orator **Patrick Henry** (1736-1799), who served as Governor of Virginia from 1776 to 1779 and again from 1784 to 1786.]
132. March 4, 1778 [70]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Haller, instructing Haller to “*send forward [to Philadelphia] any Prisoners now with you*” for a general exchange
133. March 6, 1778 [70]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Ferguson, concerning unresolved issues of prisoner-of-war provisioning and exchanges, despite some progress made

134. March 6, 1778 [71]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Thomas Franklin, explaining the difficulties of provisioning and arranging exchanges for American prisoners of war at Philadelphia
135. March 8, 1778 [71]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Loring, telling him that General Howe has finally issued a passport allowing Loring to come to Philadelphia by land to negotiate a general exchange; expressing concern about moving the American prisoners of war to Philadelphia, given the bad condition of the roads; with details
136. March 8, 1778 [72]  
Copy of passport for Loring and Major Griffiths Williams to bring American prisoner of war Major General Charles Lee by land "*through New Jersey to the City of Philadelphia*" and specifying the route to be taken [Frame 72 intentionally microfilmed twice]
137. March 8, 1778 [72]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Major General Lee, telling him that Boudinot has finally obtained the passport that will allow him to be brought to Philadelphia, describing to him the prescribed route
138. March 8, 1778 [74]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Pintard, explaining the very difficult land trip he had just taken, returning from New York to Camp at Valley Forge during the severe winter; stating that he had just had time to place a few orders for provisions for the American prisoners of war at New York
139. March 8, 1778 [74]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Colonel Seely at Elizabeth, requesting that he expedite delivery of the passport to Loring
140. March 10, 1778 [74]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Major General [Horatio] Gates, President of the Board of War, informing the War Board of Boudinot's activities in New York and the resulting efforts toward a general exchange, to include exchange of Major General Charles Lee, including a general update of the prisoner-of-war situation; requesting additional money to make the payments necessary in relation to the exchanges being negotiated; concerning related exchanges, including that of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell for Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Allen; raising in a postscript the need for Boudinot to be replaced as Commissary General so that he can serve New Jersey in the Continental Congress. Suggesting William Atlee as his successor, "*if he will but accept of it*"

**[Note:** The ambitious **Major General Horatio Gates** sought to take advantage of General Washington's limited political support in Congress. His supporters got him appointed president of the War Board (making him technically Washington's civilian boss at the same time that he was Washington's military subordinate). Gates' political machinations soon "blew up" when he was implicated in the so-called **Conway Cabal**, a conspiracy within the military to discredit Washington and get him replaced. Gates remained a general, but not president of the War Board, and clearly subordinate to Washington.]

141. March 10, 1778 [76]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Govat at the Treasury, requesting that the agreed upon bills of exchange be delivered to him at Headquarters [Frame 76 intentionally microfilmed twice]
142. March 11, 1778 [76]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Robert Peters, instructing him to send on prisoners arriving [at York] to Philadelphia, despite the bad roads and weather; stating that he has written with similar instructions to Atlee at Lancaster
143. March 11, 1778 [76]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Atlee, describing the bad roads and weather, explaining the exchange process to be concluded soon at Philadelphia and that prisoners at Lancaster will need to be moved to Philadelphia for that exchange
144. March 12, 1778 [78]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Haller, instructing him to send certain officer prisoners of war on parole to Philadelphia, with details
145. March 3, 1778 [78]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to General Washington, commenting on the disturbing situation of General Howe's discounting Boudinot's assessment of the poor conditions endured by American prisoners of war; documenting in detail the true situation of the American prisoners' poor conditions and the ongoing difficulties attempting to provide provisions for them; stating that American treatment of British prisoners of war has been better; describing General Howe's latest restrictions on provisioning and the efforts Boudinot has been making to get around them; hoping that Washington can prevail on Howe to agree to improvements
146. March 16, 1778 [82]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Hooper, upset at stories of so many prisoners of war dying, even if they are enemies; concerning provisions and other prisoner of war matters [Frame 82 intentionally microfilmed twice]



147. March 17, 1778 [82]  
Draft copy with various deletions and edits of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Ferguson, concerning parole for an [American prisoner of war] Lieutenant Getting [?]; concerning other prisoner exchange matters
148. March 17, 1778 [84]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Brigadier General John Campbell at Staten Island; stating that “*the Inhabitants of Woodbridge who are still detained in New York*” and deserve to be returned home, reporting that the arrangements he has made for exchange of Colonel [Archibald] Campbell for Ethan Allen are on track  
[Note: This **Woodbridge** might be what is now a New York City neighborhood on the Westside, near the Columbia University campus. Or it might be a township north of Perth Amboy, New Jersey.]
149. March 17, 1778 [84]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Major Dulley, Quartermaster General [?], informing Dulley that Lieutenant Colonel Campbell will be coming from Boston via Morristown to Camp; wanting to make sure that Campbell will be treated properly in Morristown
150. March 17, 1778 [85]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Atlee, enclosing passports for certain [British] prisoners of war at Lancaster to come to Philadelphia, hopefully to be exchanged; stating that “*I am distressed at your not being able to accept my Department, as to your Abolition, I will risk my reputation on them—Indeed I know of no Person who I can venture to recommend besides*”; concerning other prisoner of war matters [Frame 85 intentionally microfilmed twice]
151. March 21, 1778 [85]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp to Major General Gates, as President of the Board of War, reporting on his prisoner exchange activities; concerning various other prisoner-of-war matters, including exchanges of particular officer prisoners of war; concerning the poor condition of prisoners of war; stating that “*My Deputy in Boston [Joshua Mersereau] informs me that if permission was given, he could exchange a great number of the Convention Officers*” [captured at Saratoga]
152. March 24, 1778 [87]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Titus Lewis, [British] Commissary of Sea Prisoners, concerning expediting the exchange, at [Newport] Rhode Island, of Captain Furneaux [late of the HMS Syren] for Captain Manley late of the [USS] Hancock [Frame 87 intentionally microfilmed twice]

**[Note: Captain Tobias Furneaux** (1735-1781) had previously sailed with Captain James Cook on his second voyage in 1771. By 1776, he was commander of the HMS Syren. In November 1777, he had the misfortune of wrecking his ship off of Cape Judith, Rhode Island and was captured and imprisoned at Providence. Meanwhile, **Captain John Manley** (1733-1793) had previously been a merchant captain sailing out of Boston. By 1776, he had joined the nascent U.S. Navy and was put in command of the new frigate USS Hancock. In July 1777, he and the Hancock were captured at sea by British Navy forces, and he was imprisoned at New York. At the time of this letter, final negotiations were underway for their mutual exchange. See also documents 159 and 160. The exchange was apparently completed at the very end of March.]

153. March 24, 1778 [89]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Lieutenant Colonel Campbell, stating that "*I am truly concerned that so many unlucky & unforeseen Accidents should retard your liberation*"; explaining the circumstances of the delay, in the context of a much larger exchange process now underway [Frame 89 intentionally microfilmed twice]
154. March 27, 1778 [89]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot to Ferguson, concerning various prisoner-of-war matters, including both arrangements for a general exchange and matters concerning individual prisoners of war
155. March 27, 1778 [91]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to [British prisoner of war] William Nichols, late Captain of the packet Eagle, responding to his complaints, stating that he knew "*nothing of your Cloathes being stopped, till I was well informed that you had acted unworthily by secretly transmitting a Letter to a Person in the Country, by which he rec<sup>d</sup> Information in what manner to desert to the Enemy*"; instructing Nichols to "*immediately return to your Parole, by which means you will have an Opportunity of clearing up the Charge ag<sup>t</sup> you if in your Power*" [Frame 91 intentionally microfilmed twice]  
**[Note: Captain William Nichols** (1758-1780) was a merchant sea captain from Cornwall. During the American Revolution he captained the packet Eagle between Cornwall and the rebellious American Colonies—and was captured. For more on the charges against Captain Nichols, see documents 114 and 117 in the Schwalm Collection, Reel 4, both dated April 4, 1778. See also, in the same reel, document 125, dated April 17, 1778, in which Boudinot writes that he cannot find Nichols. The rest of this story is not told in these papers.]
156. March 28, 1778 [91]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Pintard, stating that "I cannot conceive what occasions the delay in sending you Flour"; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters; sending Pintard some money for his expenses

157. March 28, 1778 [91]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Mersereau, concerning sending Lieutenant Colonel Campbell to Morristown; concerning the possible exchange of Convention officers; concerning sending officers to Newport, Rhode Island for possible exchange
158. March 28, 1778 [94]  
Copy of note from Boudinot to William Goval [at the Treasury Board], concerning payment of expenses for Boudinot and for Haller at Reading, whose accounts have been submitted
159. March 28, 1778 [94]  
Copy of letter from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Williams, concerning returning Colonel Delaney to New York; enclosing \$4,000 in money for his expenses; concerning the exchange of Captain Manley for Captain Furneaux; concerning other prisoner-of-war matters
160. March 28, 1778 [95]  
Copy of note from Boudinot at Camp at Valley Forge to Nicholas Cooke, Governor of Rhode Island, asking him to send Captain Furneaux immediately [from Providence] to Newport for his exchange for Captain Manley [Frame 95 intentionally microfilmed twice]  
[Note: **Nicholas Cooke** (1717-1782) had served for many years in positions of political leadership in the colony of Rhode Island. In 1775, he made the transition to be the first governor of the State of Rhode Island. At age 59, he retired from public life in May 1778.]

[Note: The letterbook ends abruptly on March 28, 1778 with a number of activities in midstream. Whether or not Boudinot started another letterbook on March 29, he did not end his prisoner-of-war activities on March 28. These activities continued, as documented in Boudinot's own papers of incoming correspondence included in this Finding Aid, until he resigned in May and beyond that as he wrapped up his work as Commissary General.]

**Horatio Gates Papers—Prisoner-of-War Returns**  
**Annotated List of Contents of Selected Documents**  
**New York Historical Society**  
**(microfilmed in 1978)**  
**DLAR Microfilm Set 23 (2 selected Reels)**

**Note:** The Horatio Gates Papers microfilmed by the New York Historical Society comprise a collection of 20 reels. Among these, prisoner-of-war returns are found scattered through only Reel 18 and Reel 19. This Finding Aid includes only the prisoner-of-war returns found in the Gates Papers.

**Note:** DLAR's reel numbers are the same as those in the NYHS collection. The frame numbers recorded here are found on each microfilmed frame, facilitating the search for specific documents within a reel.

## Reel 18

Sept. 19, 1777 to Nov. 18, 1778    Documents 1 to 26    [Scattered Frames 877-1312]  
(Source: New York Historical Society)

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1.        1777 [877]  
"List of Prisoners in the Old Fort" [perhaps at Albany, New York], including names of 8 prisoners, identified apparently by home town, all places between Saratoga and south of Albany, 3 "*Taken 6 miles beyond Fort Edw<sup>d</sup> on his way to Canaday*", 3 "*Taken near the Enemy, in their Rear*", and 2 "*taken coming home, after having been with the Enemy*"  
[**Note:** **Fort Edward** was located on the upper Hudson River, just below Glens Falls and north of Saratoga, New York.]
2.        1777 [878]  
"*Prisoners in the City Hall*" [perhaps at Albany, New York], listed by name, "*of What place*", and "*Crimes*" for 48 prisoners; mostly local people whose alleged crimes related to consorting with the enemy

[**Note:** The lists contained in documents 1 and 2 appear to fit into the context of, but are not a direct part of the **Battle of Saratoga** resulting from British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's unsuccessful attempt to split the American states along the Hudson River divide. The American Northern Army under Major General Horatio Gates twice defeated Burgoyne's army on September 19, 1777 at Freeman's Farm and again on October 7 at Bemis Heights, after which Burgoyne was compelled to surrender his army. The prisoners listed in documents 1 and 2 appear not to be combatant prisoners of war but instead local people who got apprehended and imprisoned on suspicion of consorting with the enemy in various ways.]

3. September 19, 1777 [973]  
*"A List of Prisoners [of war] taken in the Action on the 19<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1777"* [at the Battle of Freeman's Farm, the first of the two engagements comprising the Battle of Saratoga], including officers Captain Van Swearingen, Captain Jason Watts, and Lieutenant John More along with 14 named soldiers; 6 named prisoners identified as *"Wounded & in the Gen<sup>l</sup> Hospital"*; 7 named prisoners identified as *"taken previous to & since the action of the 19<sup>th</sup> Sep"*; followed by An undated, typed transcription of this document
4. September 21, 1777 [980]  
*"A Return of British Prisoners taken 19 Sept 1777"*, including 42 prisoners of war identified by rank and last name and some by regiment; prepared at "New City" [whose location is not clear; present-day New City, New York is a "hamlet" located opposite Tarrytown on the lower Hudson River]
5. [c. October 1777] [989]  
*"Return of the Officers Prisoners in the Hospital [at Albany] abandoned by [Major] Gen<sup>l</sup> Burgoyne & of the Medical Officers & attendants left with them—in the handwriting of Mr. J. M. Hayes Surgeon"* [Dr. John MacNamara Hayes], including 9 officer prisoners of war, 8 named *"Medical Officers & Serv<sup>ts</sup>"* including Hayes plus *"15 [unnamed] Nurses"*  
**[Note: Dr. [later Sir] John MacNamara Hayes (1750-1809)** was a military physician in the British Army, serving in America from 1775 through 1783. Apparently British wounded prisoners of war from the Battle of Saratoga were moved from here, perhaps under Dr. Hayes' supervision, to a two-sloop British hospital in the Hudson River at Fishkill. For more on Hayes, the Albany hospital, and two-sloop hospital, see documents 12, 14, 15, 16, and 20-22.]
6. October 12, 1777 [1008]  
*"Return—Account of Monies paid to Deserters by Col. Udney Hay"*, with entries for 111 deserters by name (except for 6 identified only as "German soldiers" and 5 as "Canadians with arms & acct's") plus the amount paid to each, with a total of £555.4

[**Note:** **Lieutenant Colonel Udney Hay** (1739-1806) was Deputy Quartermaster General at this time. Why these monies were being paid to deserters is not clear; perhaps they were actually bounties paid to others who captured these deserters or possibly subsistence payments for deserters while they were imprisoned; these appear to be British and “German” soldier prisoners plus the 5 loyalist Canadians; whether or not these were prisoners of war or deserters imprisoned by their own army is not clear. Hay was runner up to Nathanael Greene to become Quartermaster General in early 1778. After the war, he settled in Vermont as a politician and to continue his prewar lumber business.]

7. [no date] [1011]  
“*Return of the Staff Officers belonging to*” Lieutenant General Burgoyne”, listing 21 officers by name and rank

8. October 17, 1777 [1022]  
“*State of the British Troops at the Convention the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1777*”, including officers present by rank for commissioned officers and staff officers, plus sergeants and drummers and rank and file troops, for a total of 2,901 prisoners of war; signed by Burgoyne

[**Note:** On October 17, 1777, British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British army to American Major General Horatio Gates after the **Battle of Saratoga** in what was a major turning-point battle in the Americans’ fight for Independence from Britain. Besides reversing the momentum of relentless British victories, this battle greatly increased the number of prisoners to be managed by the American prisoner-of-war network.

However, these prisoners rarely found their way into the prisons operated by the commissaries of prisoners. This occurred because of the unusual “convention” agreed to on the battlefield on October 17, 1777 between Generals Burgoyne and Gates. Its provisions called for Burgoyne’s captured troops to be paroled and shipped home to Europe, prohibited from returning to fight in America again. Since Congress never ratified this controversial agreement, the paroles were never granted, and the prisoners were never sent home.

Instead, they were kept together as the so-called **Convention Army** (often referred to in these documents as “Convention Troops” and were marched from one location to another for the duration of the war. They were moved from time to time both to avoid proximity to military action and to allow them to “live off the land.” Thus, they were not incarcerated by or provisioned by the commissary of prisoners network, except for some who were wounded or ill, those who had deserted, or those who had committed domestic crimes. If they were too ill or severely wounded to travel, or once they were recapture after desertion or committing a crime, they were often sent to one of the network’s prisons.

References are scattered through the documents of this Finding Aid about the unique group of British and German prisoners of war called the "Convention Army" or "Convention Troops." Many of these references document the occasional entry of Convention Army deserters or criminals into the established prisoner-of-war prisons. In particular, the Boudinot Papers and Atlee Papers include documents pertaining to the Convention Troops. As Commissary General of Prisoners, Boudinot's 1777-1778 correspondence reflects the big picture of all American prisoner-of-war operations. Atlee's correspondence, Lancaster provisions returns, and Lancaster prisoner-of-war lists, especially during 1781 and 1782, reflect the Lancaster prisoner-of-war operation's accommodation of many Convention Troops who could no longer march with the Army.]

**[Note: Major General Horatio Lloyd Gates (1727-1806)** had a long but mixed military career. In the British Army, he was sent to North America during the Seven Years' War, where he met George Washington. When the military was reduced following that war, Gates' career stalled. Seeking opportunity, he left England and settled in Virginia. By 1772, he had reestablished contact with Washington, and in 1775 he became an early military leader in the Continental Army, as a Brigadier General and the first American Adjutant General. By 1777, having been promoted to Major General and placed in command of the Northern Army, he greatly enhanced his career by forcing the surrender of British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's army at Saratoga.

But thereafter, he became embroiled in the Conway Affair, an intrigue within the army against its commander-in-chief General Washington that was exposed, with negative consequences for Gates. By 1780 he emerged from under this cloud as commander of the Southern Army. But after he disastrously lost the Battle of Camden, was replaced by General Nathanael Greene, and was subjected to an inquiry into his conduct during the battle, his military career never fully recovered.]

**[Note: Lieutenant General John Burgoyne (1722-1792),** like his Saratoga adversary, was a career military man in the British Army. Unlike Gates, however, his career remained solidly with the British. After successful leadership during the Seven Years' War in campaigns in northern France and then Portugal, he had been promoted to Major General by the beginning of the American Revolutionary War and to Lieutenant General by 1777. In Canada, he fought successfully under General Guy Carleton, helping drive the invading Americans out of Quebec territory. He then conceived and had the political clout to be placed in command of the British army that sought to split the American states along the Hudson River, potentially isolating New England for British re-conquest.

In October 1777, this plan and Burgoyne's military career were both dashed at Saratoga by Major General Gates' victory and Burgoyne's surrender. After negotiating the battlefield Convention with Gates, Burgoyne returned to England to defend his decisions and account for his defeat. Back home, he turned to politics and a seat in Parliament, which he occupied until his unexpected death in 1792.]

9. October 17, 1777 [1025]  
“*Return of Two Canadian Companies*”, written in French, Captain Boucherville’s Company and Captain Beaubien’s Company, including numbers of troops by rank and company, with a total of 61 troops in Boucherville’s Company and 48 in Beaubien’s Company [on this date, these two companies were presumably prisoners of war but are not stated to be so]
10. October 17, 1777 [1029]  
“*Call Roll of the King’s Loyal Americans commanded by Ebenezer Jessup Captain Commandant, Present at Saratoga*”, including 111 troops listed by name and company [The King’s Loyal Americans (or Loyal Rangers) were a troop of loyalists organized by Edward and Ebenezer Jessup in their home territory around Albany and Saratoga. Whether they were prisoners of war on this date is not clear in the document; they did not become Convention Troops because in February 1778 they were at LaChine, Canada, memorializing British General Guy Carleton for pay owed them]
11. October 18, 1777 [1031]  
“*Return of the Prisoners of War This Day*” in Albany, including name, rank, and regiment for 129 named prisoners, plus a tally of the number of prisoners by rank
12. October 22, 1777 [1034]  
“*Return of [British] Prisoners of War in Confinement in this City*” [Albany], including 9 soldiers “*in Health*”, 1 shipwright, 2 wounded soldiers, and 1 sick sailor; signed by Daniel Hale, [American Deputy] Commissary of Prisoners [at Albany] [one of Hale’s very few mentions in the documents included in this Finding Aid and one of the few references in the prisoner-of-war returns contained in the Gates Papers to one of the cadre of Deputy Commissaries of Prisoners who were working in 1777 under Commissary General of Prisoners Elias Boudinot.]
13. October 31, 1777 [1065]  
“*A General Return of His Britannic Majestys Forces under L<sup>t</sup> General Burgoyne which surrendered to the American Army commanded by Major General Gates at Saratoga on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1777*”, including a “digest” of numbers listed by Corps (British, German, and Canadian) and rank for a total of 5,863 prisoners of war, of whom 4,991 were rank and file soldiers; signed at York Town by James Wilkinson, Adjutant general of the Northern American Army  
[**Note:** The location of this York Town is unclear. Present-day Yorktown, New York is located east of Peekskill.]



14. November [?], 1777 [1068]  
*"A General Return of the Sick & Wounded at the General Hospital Albany"*, including 27 individuals listed by name and whether wounded or the kind of illness [these may be American sick and wounded soldiers, but the document itself is not clear; since British prisoners of war were being held in a hospital at Albany after the Battle of Saratoga (see document 5 and the note following it), these 27 soldiers might also be prisoners of war]
  
15. November 13, 1777 [1120]  
*"A General Return of Wounded Officers in his Majesty's Hospital at Albany"*, including 12 officers [prisoners of war] listed by name, regiment, and rank; signed by Dr. John MacNamara Hayes
  
16. November 14, 1777 [1121]  
*"A return of Sick & Wounded in His Majesty's Hospital at Albany"*, including 256 named prisoners of war by regiment or corps and by company; signed by Dr. John MacNamara Hayes
  
17. November 13, 1777 [1127]  
*"Return of British and German Officers Prisoners of War in this City"* [Albany], including 11 British officer prisoners of war and 4 German officer prisoners of war, listed by name, rank, regiment, and whether or not wounded; signed by American Deputy Commissary at Albany, Daniel Hale
  
18. November 24, 1777 [1168]  
*"A Report of the [American] Main Guard, Albany"*, including 16 prisoners by name, regiment, company, by whom confined, and number of days to be confined, and alleged crime; 6 are charged with desertion or a domestic crime, 5 of whom appear to be American military men and one British, and therefore a prisoner of war; 9, who appear to be American civilians, are charged "*for Toryism*"
  
19. December 5, 1777 [1192]  
*"A Return of the German Prisoners in the Hospital at Schenectady fit to be discharg<sup>d</sup> and order<sup>d</sup> to Tryon County"*, including 6 named sergeants and 20 named privates  
**[Note:** In 1777, **Tryon County**, New York consisted of an ill-defined wilderness area stretching from west of Albany to Lakes Ontario and Erie and to the St. Lawrence River. The county seat was in Johnstown, then a frontier town northwest of Schenectady, whose committee of safety had a reputation for harassing Tories.]
  
20. December 23, 1777 [1212]  
*"List of German Prisoners sent to the Committee of Tryon County by order of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Major Gen<sup>l</sup> Gates"* at Albany, including 17 prisoners by name, rank, and company commander

21. December 26, 1777 [1214]  
“*A Return of British Soldiers who in Consequence of Wounds received are rendered incapable of any further Military Service*”, listed by regiment, name, and company for 54 prisoners of war; signed at Albany by John McNamara Hayes  
[Note: At this time, British Army military physician Hayes must have been planning to move British prisoners of war wounded at Saratoga from the Albany hospital to a two-sloop British hospital at Fishkill.]
22. June 4, 1778 [1235]  
“*A Return of His Majesty’s Hospital on board two Sloops at Fish Kill*” [New York], listing ill or wounded British and German prisoners of war by regiment, name, and company for a total of 112 prisoners; signed by Dr. John MacNamara Hayes
23. June 4, 1778 [1238]  
“*A return of the Officers & Soldiers of his Majesty’s Hospital from Albany on board of two Sloops at Fish Kill*”, a return of the hospital staff by name and position, including 1 surgeon (Hayes), 3 “*Males of the Hosp<sup>h</sup>*”, 3 “*German Company Filchurs*”, and 112 privates, of whom only 3 are named); signed by Dr. John MacNamara Hayes
24. November 14-16, 1778 [1309]  
Returns of British prisoners of war [Convention Troops] of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Divisions that were marched from [Cambridge] Massachusetts to Charlottesville, Virginia in November 1778, listed by regiment for the number of commissioned officers, staff officers, sergeants, drummers & fifers, and rank & file, with totals for each rank in each Division, for a total of 692 in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division, 657 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, and 631 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division
25. November 18, 1778 [1311]  
“*A return of the Hessian Dragoon Regiment*”, written in German, including numbers of troops by generalized rank for a total of 28 individuals; counter-signed by Colonel Noah Phelps [see note after document 26]
26. November 18, 1778 [1312]  
“*Rietourn of the no. of Man of the Brounswick’s Grenadiers Battaillon Soufield*”, including numbers of troops by rank for a total of 222 individuals; counter-signed by Colonel Noah Phelps

[**Note:** The circumstances in this document and document 25 are not clear from the documents themselves. Noah Phelps was an American military officer. His home was Simsbury, Connecticut, just over the border, south of Springfield, Massachusetts. The “*Soufield*” in this document is perhaps Suffield, Connecticut, not far from Simsbury. Why Phelps would be somehow responsible for groups of both German and Brunswick German Mercenaries (presumably prisoners of war) is not clear, except that at this same time, the Convention Troops were being moved from Cambridge, Massachusetts to Charlottesville, Virginia (see document 24). Perhaps Phelps’ possible proximity to his home at Simsbury was coincidental and he was just passing through with prisoners of war who might have come this way in order to travel by boat down the Connecticut River.]

## Reel 19

Dec. 3, 1778 to Nov. 11, 1780                      Documents 1 to 6                      [Scattered Frames 1-471]  
(Source: New York Historical Society)

**Note:** **DLAR Document Numbers** appear at the left margin. Frame Numbers appear at the right margin. Both sets of numbers run through a complete Reel.

1. [no date] [1]  
“*A List of American Prisoners taken in Vessels arm’d for War, and in merch<sup>t</sup> Vessels under the Care of Mr. Charles Waller, [British] Commissary of Prisoners at Rhode Island, and released upon requests of [American] Major General [John] Sullivan’s Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> Novemb<sup>r</sup>, 1778 for an equal number, and of the same Rank to be return’d in Lieu*”, including (separately for armed vessels and merchant vessels) names and ranks (called “*Qualities*”) for 94 prisoners from armed vessels and 50 from merchant vessels  
[**Note:** This exchange was a follow-up to the **Battle of Rhode Island**, fought in August 1778. General Sullivan was unable to dislodge the British from Rhode Island, but the battle was essentially a draw.]
2. December 3, 1778 [20]  
“*Return of the names of the Officers, Non Commissioned Officers, and private men of the Troops of the Convention under the Command of [British] Major General Phillips left behind the march of the Troops to Virginia to go to New York*”, including names and their British Army regiments, totaling 122 prisoners of war, plus 20 German prisoners of war; prepared at Cambridge [Massachusetts]

3. December 3, 1778 [22]  
*"Return of the Officers, Non Commissioned Officers & Sick and Invalids of the Convention Troops under the Command of Major General Phillips to go by Sea and Land to New York and to be left behind"*, including numbers of prisoners, by categories of officers, sergeants, drummers, rank & file, women, and children, for a total of 213 prisoners, 100 to go by sea, 105 by land, and 8 to be left behind
  
4. December 19, 1778 [32]  
*"A Return of Prisoners of War & Convention Troops in Barracks at Rutland"* [Massachusetts, northwest of Worcester], including numbers of men, women, and children prisoners (total of 69 British and 98 German prisoners of war, of whom 17 were women and children, and 9 Convention British Troops and invalids, of whom 5 were women and children)
  
5. May 26, 1779 [161]  
Copy of *"List of Brittish prisoners on board the Sloop Richard, Richard Spink master from Newlondon [Connecticut] to Newport Rode Island a Cartiel addressed to Charles Waller Esqr [British] Commissary of navil prisoners there"*, including names, *"Quality"* (rank), *"by What Ship taken"*, and *"To What Vessel Belonging"* for 17 American naval prisoners of war
  
6. November 1, 1780 [471]  
*"A Report & Return of the prisoners taken at Kings Mountain now in Camp"* at Bethabara, listing numbers of prisoners for 9 British officers, 1 sergeant, 50 rank & file, and 340 *"Tory Prisoners officers Included"*, signed by Colonel Benjamin Cleaveland and Colonel Martin Armstrong  

**[Note:** The **Battle of King's Mountain** was fought on October 7, 1780 on the North Carolina-South Carolina line, southwest of today's Gastonia, North Carolina. As indicated by the prisoner numbers, a large number of loyalists fought in this battle with little involvement of British regular troops. Colonels Cleaveland and Armstrong were leading commanders in this victory of American "rebels" over American "loyalists." A stockade was built at a nearby Moravian town named Bethabara (no longer identifiable by name), within which prisoners of war were held.]

— END —