

tide of the engagement. The Second New York (Clinton's) Regiment was elsewhere on special service.

Among the casualties, those reported in Colonel Jacobus Swartwout's regiment were Thomas McCutcheon, a private in Captain Abraham Schenck's company, killed on October 27th, and Captain Cornelius van Wyck, killed on October 31.¹

On the morning of the first of November the British advanced with a number of field-pieces to the north of the road, near Washington's late headquarters (a heavy column appearing behind on the hill ready to move forward), and commenced a furious cannonade on Major-General Heath's division, which was nobly returned by Captain-Lieutenant Bryant and Lieutenant Jackson of the artillery. Major-General Heath's first anxiety was for Colonel William Malcom's regiment on the hill, to the east of the hollow on the left, lest the enemy should push a column into the hollow and cut the regiment off from the division. He therefore ordered Major Israel Keith, one of his aids, to gallop over and order Colonel Malcom to withdraw immediately with Lieutenant Fenno's artillery. But, upon a more critical view of the ground in the hollow (at the head of which there was a heavy stone wall, well situated to cover a body of troops to throw a heavy fire directly down it while an oblique fire could be thrown in on both sides), he ordered Major Pollard, his other aid, to gallop after Major Keith and countermand the first order and direct Colonel Malcom to remain at his post, and [inform him that] he should be supported.

"A strong regiment was ordered to the head of the hollow to occupy the wall. The cannonade was brisk on both sides, through which the two aides-de-camp passed in going and returning. Just at that time, General Washington rode up to the hill. His first question to Major-General Heath was: 'How is your division?' He was answered, 'It is all in order.' 'Have you,' said the commander-in-chief, 'any troops on the hill over the hollow?' He was answered, 'Malcom's regiment is there.' 'If you do not call it off immediately,' said he, 'you may lose it should the enemy push a column up the hollow.' He was answered that even in that case its retreat should be made safe, for a strong regiment had been posted at the head of the hollow behind a stone wall, and that that regiment, with the oblique fire of the division, could so check the enemy as to allow Malcom to make a safe retreat. The commander-in-chief, on departing, said, 'Take care that you do not lose them.'

"The artillery of the division was so well directed as to throw the British artillerymen several times into confusion, and finding that they could not here

¹ American archives. Fifth series, vol. iii., p. 722.