

light troops from the Connecticut and New York State [militia] troops, the Rhode Island regiment, the regiment known as 'Congress' Own,' under Colonel Hazen, the two New York regiments, a detachment of New Jersey troops, and the artillery under Colonel John Lamb."<sup>1</sup>

"In this historic march, General Washington, in General Orders, dated Springfield, New Jersey, 28th August, 1781, organized a light division under Major-General Benjamin Lincoln, which contained the choicest American regiments in the expedition. This division consisted of the light infantry on the right under the accomplished Colonel Alexander Scammel of the First New Hampshire Continentals, who lost his life before Yorktown; the two New York regiments on the left under Brigadier-General James Clinton, and the two New Jersey regiments and the Rhode Island Continental Regiment in the centre."<sup>2</sup>

Some, having successfully reached the head of the Elk River, at Elkton, and others, Annapolis, in Maryland, where transports from the French fleet had been ordered to await their arrival, the American and French troops were thence transported to Virginia, where, at Williamsburg, the last division, on the twenty-fifth of September, joined the army under General Lafayette.

Lord Cornwallis's army was then occupying strong lines of earthworks at Yorktown and Gloucester, on opposite sides of the York River.

At daybreak, on the twenty-eighth of September, the entire body of the allied forces moved from Williamsburg, and occupied a position within two miles of the enemy's lines; the American troops being on the right and the French auxiliaries on the left.

"On the night of the sixth of October, under the command of General Lincoln, the besiegers [then occupying a position eastward of the village, on the south bank of the York River], opened their trenches within six hundred yards of the enemy's lines, yet with so much silence was it conducted that it appears to have been undiscovered until daylight on the seventh, when the works were so far completed that they afforded ample shelter for the men, and but one officer and sixteen privates were injured. \* \* \* \*

"The seventh, eighth, and ninth of October were employed in strengthening the first parallel, and in constructing batteries somewhat in advance of it, for the purpose of raking the enemy's works and of battering his shipping. \* \* \* \*  
At five o'clock in the afternoon of the ninth, the American battery, on the right of the line, opened its fire,—General Washington, in person, firing the first gun, —and six, eighteen and twenty-four pounders, two mortars, and two howitzers

<sup>1</sup> Battles of the United States by sea and land. By Henry B. Dawson, vol. i., pp. 734, 735, 736, 737.

<sup>2</sup> The New York Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution. By Asa Bird Gardner. Magazine of American History, vol. vii., No. 6, p. 411.