

habitants of Orange County, July 22, 1822. Sacred to the memory of forty-four of their fellow-citizens, who fell at the battle of Minisink, July 22, 1779."¹

Whether Aaron Swartwout, then a fifer in Colonel John Hathorn's regiment, was among the militiamen attacked by the ambushed Indians and Tories at Minisink, no definite information is obtainable, although he is known to have been in active service during the greater part of the summer of 1779.²

The second, third, fourth, and fifth New York regiments composed a part of the forces under Major-General John Sullivan and Brigadier-General James Clinton, which in the months of August and September, 1779, invaded and devastated the towns of the five Indian nations in Western New York, and afterward rejoined the main continental army in New Jersey, and went into winter-quarters at Morristown.

Unrecorded as the nature and place of the service appear to be, the information exists that Captain George Brinckerhoff's company, of which Abraham Schultz was first lieutenant, and William Swartwout was second, was on duty in November, 1779, and was then under the orders of Colonel Roswell Hopkins, commanding the sixth regiment of Dutchess County militia. *Data* derived from the same source show that Cornelius, son of Cornelius and Elizabeth Ter Bos Swartwout, served from November 1 to December 25, that year, as a sergeant in Captain Robert Wood's company, in the regiment of levies commanded by Colonel Albert Pawling.³

The army in winter-quarters at Morristown as truthfully described by an historian, "fought cold, nakedness, and famine. During the 'great freeze' of January, 1780, the suffering became intense. Washington found that even military constraint was unable to collect food from a region almost depleted of supplies. His transportation was so limited that it was with difficulty that fuel could be hauled for camp-fires, and the troops were repeatedly without meat for two or three days. * * * *

"On the eleventh of January Quartermaster-General [Nathaniel] Greene wrote, 'Such weather never did I feel. For six or eight days it has been so cold that there has been no living abroad; the snow is also very deep, and much drifted. We drive over the tops of fences. We have been alternately out of meat and bread for eight or nine days past, and without either for three or four.' * * * *

"General La Fayette returned from France, reached Morristown on the twelfth of May, was received with enthusiasm, and brought the welcome news

¹ *Vide*: An outline history of Orange County, N. Y. By Samuel Eager, p. 499.

² *Vide*: Certificates of the Treasurer of the state of New York, Nos. 38, 425, 875; vol. i., pp. 17, 23, 30. Audited accounts. Book A, pp. 12, 60.

³ *Ibid.*, Nos. 13073, 5380; vol. iii., p. 54; vol. ii., p. 16.