

NEW JERSEY ARCHIVES  
NEWSPAPER EXTRACTS

Philadelphia, April 30. On Monday last, the 26th inst. about break of day, a detachment of British, consisting of seven hundred men, were discovered by a scouting party of col. Ford's coming up the North river, about half a mile below Red bank, who immediately gave the alarm. The enemy directly landed four hundred men at Painter's point, and about forty of them marched up to Shrewsbury; the remainder went about half a mile to the westward, and came out about Wm. Wardill's place, with a view to cut off the retreat of near three hundred of our people posted on that station. Col. Ford's party (uncertain of the enemy's force) retreated, and got about four hundred yards ahead of them; the enemy pursued them to the Falls, firing all the way, but could not overtake them. They then set fire to high sheriff Van Breenck's house, and a small house the property of and adjoining to col. Hendrickson's dwelling house, which were burnt to the ground. They also fired the houses of capt. Richard M'Knight and John Little, esq; but they were extinguished by the activity of the inhabitants,

before they had suffered much damage. The enemy then returned to Shrewsbury, plundering all the way to col. Breeze's whom they robbed of all his money and most of his plate, and at justice Holme's where they plundered and destroyed every thing they could lay their hands upon; and then retreated to their boats, a few militia firing on them. Then then went to Middleton, and joined three hundred who had crossed over there, when the four hundred marched to Shrewsbury, and staid till evening, burning a house and barn, and plundering some of the inhabitants. Col. Holmes had by this time assembled one hundred and forty of the militia, who drove them to their boats near the gut dividing the Highlands from Sandy Hook. One of the enemy was killed, and another taken prisoner. The enemy carried off with them justice Covenhoven and son, likewise several others. They got off by sunset, and returned to New York, taking away some cattle and horses.

*The Pennsylvania Evening Post, April 30, 1779.*

NEW YORK, June 15, 1779

On the ninth day of June instant, a party of Volunteers went down to Sandy-Hook, where they were joined by a small detachment of Colonel Barton's regiment of New Jersey Volunteers, from whence they proceeded to the Gut, about four miles distant, but as the wind blew very hard, the boats that were provided did not come up, and they were obliged to return to the light-house. On the 10th, being ready to cross the Gut, it was agreed by the party the Lieut. Okerson, who was perfectly acquainted with the country, should give them directions. They advanced undiscovered with fifty-six men as far as Tenton Falls, about ten miles from the landing, where they halted just as the day appeared, near the rebel head-quarters at the back of the town; but not knowing the house where their main guard was kept, they determined to surround three houses at the same time. Captain Hayden of General Skinner's, proceeded to the house of Mr. McKinght, a rebel Captain, Ensign Moody to the house of Mr. Hendrickson, a Colonel, and Lieutenant Throgmorton to one Shadwick's a rebel Captain. The three parties came nearly at the same time to the place where the main guard of the rebels was kept, but missed them, they being on a scout. They made Colonel Hendrickson, Lieutenant Colonel Wickoff, Captains Shadwick and McKnight, with several private prisoners; and after proceeding one mile further, took a Major Van Brunt. They had collected about three hundred sheep and

horses belonging to rebels, and were returning when they were attacked by a party of about thirty, who harrassed them in their retreat, till they got down to the water side at Jumping-Point-Inlet, through which they drove the sheep, and all except fifteen of the Volunteers, who were left to secure a passage, over on the other side. A warm engagement then ensued, and continued an hour, when they heard the Captain of the rebels swear by God that he would give them no quarters, and soon after he received two balls: Upon his falling the Volunteers charged their bayonets, drove the rebels, and took possession of the ground where the dead and wounded lay. When they had crossed the river, they observed a man with a flag riding down from the rebels, who asked permission to carry off the dead and wounded, which was immediately granted. The man with the flag informed them that the whole of their party who were engaged were killed or wounded. They returned to Sandy-Hook the same evening with their prisoners: The names of the fifteen who engaged the rebels are as follows:

Captain Samuel Hayden, Lieutenant Thomas Okerson, second officers; Lieutenant Hutchinson, Ensign Moody, first battalion General Skinner's; Lieutenant John Buskirk, of Colonel Ritzema's; five privates of General Skinner's; two sailors and a coxswain of one of the boats; Marphet Taylor, William Gilian, John Worthley, Volunteers.

In the engagement one officer and two privates of the Volunteers were wounded.

*The Royal Gazette (A Loyalist Newspaper)*

#### TRENTON, April 5, 1780

Last week a party of the enemy landed at Tinton Falls, in Monmouth county, and carried off 6 or 7 of the inhabitants prisoners. — Another small party which landed at Middletown, carried off a Mr. Bowne, who had but three days before been exchanged, and just returned home.

*The Pennsylvania Journal, April 12, 1780.*