

Clinton from the south. General Tryon with the seventh regiment, and the Hessian regiment of Trumbach, while co-operating with General Vaughan, was to occupy the pass and preserve communication with the fleet; and ultimately that officer joined General Vaughan and participated in the final assault upon Fort Clinton.

“The approach to Fort Clinton was steep and difficult. Besides an advanced redoubt, large trees had been felled and distributed as *abatís* down the slope, and a heavy stone wall crossed the foot of the hill below the timber, extending from the Hudson to Sissipink pond or lake.

“On the evening of the fifth, Sunday, Governor Clinton ‘sent Major Samuel Logan [of the Fifth New York Regiment], who was well acquainted with the ground, through the mountains to reconnoitre. He returned at nine o’clock on Monday, with the information that a considerable force was between King’s Ferry and Dunderberg; but the numbers could not be discovered on account of the fog.’ Lieutenant Pattin Jackson [of the same regiment] marched out two miles on the Haverstraw Road with a small party, but was compelled to retire. Lieutenant-Colonel James S. Bruyn [of the same regiment] with fifty continental troops, and as many militia under Lieutenant-Colonel James McClaughry [of the second regiment of Ulster County militia], was sent to support Lieutenant Jackson, but he was too late to seize the pass, and fell back slowly, in good order, ‘disputing the ground inch by inch.’ Governor Clinton was the life of the defence of both posts.

“A dispatch was sent to General Putnam asking for reinforcements, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lamb was directed to send a six-pounder, the only field-piece at Fort Montgomery, with sixty men and a supporting party of the same strength, to check the advance of Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, who was approaching that fort. This detachment fought with great spirit, but was compelled to retire, abandoning the gun after spiking it. A second detachment was hurried to their support, and a twelve-pounder was advanced to cover their retreat, which was accomplished with some loss, including Captain Fenno taken prisoner. This was about two o’clock in the afternoon, as stated in the official report of Governor Clinton. The attack upon the fort was maintained until five o’clock, when a flag was sent, demanding a surrender. This was refused, and the fight continued until dusk, when the works were stormed on all sides, and the garrison made their best efforts to escape.

“In Sir Henry Clinton’s report he states that ‘after the advanced parties before Fort Clinton were driven into the works, Trumbach’s regiment was posted at the stone wall to cover our retreat in case of misfortune,’ and ‘the works were stormed at the point of the bayonet, without a shot being fired.’

“He reports his ‘loss as not very considerable, excepting in some respect-