

with, and Appropriating to each other Certain Articles belonging and of the Estate of sd. Philip Swarthout Esqr. Deed." As specialized by an annotation marked "N. B." "Cornelius Wyncoop Swarthout Chose two Guardians before these presents" were signed and sealed.

Among the appraised chattels were one negro woman valued at £200, a negro girl at a similar sum, another at £150, and a negro man named Tobe. The live stock on the farm was appraised at £359, and the cash, bonds, and notes in the house amounted to £116, 8s., 6d. Three vendues returned the heirs £138, 2s., 6d., who meanwhile had apportioned among themselves a considerable part of the personal property. "To pay the doctor and other extraordinary expenses" necessary for the healing of Cornelius Wyncoop Swartwout's wounds, a note bearing interest, and the money due on flour and grain furnished the state militia, were set apart to defray them.

To protect the settlers on the frontier of Orange County from massacre by predatory bands of Indians, the third regiment of Ulster County militia, commanded by Colonel John Cantine, was stationed at points along it in November and December, that year. Captain John Brinckerhoff's company of Dutchess County militia, of which William Swartwout was lieutenant, and his twin brother Jacobus, ensign, also served there at that time under Colonel Cantine.¹ Serving also in the same company and regiment at that time as a private was Jacobus, the son of Rudolphus and Gerrardine Swartwout.

After the reduction of Fort Montgomery and Fort Clinton, Major-General Israel Putnam selected West Point as a site for a fortification, which was begun in 1778 and completed in 1779. To obstruct the navigation of the Hudson River, a chain was stretched from the north side of the rocky point to Constitution Island, on the east side of the stream.

The links were made of bar-iron, nearly two inches thick, severally weighing about one hundred and fifty pounds. The weight of the entire chain was one hundred and eighty-six tons. It was made in sections of ten links, which were united by an open link, at the open end of which were holes through which a bolt was thrust when two sections were connected. A section of the chain and an open link formed a load, which, when conveyed from Sterling Furnace to New Windsor by an ox-cart, were, with other sections, transported thence by water to West Point. Tradition relates that Roeloff, son of Anthony and Mary Armstrong Swartwout, born in the town of Goshen, in Orange County, on January 1, 1764, was at the time of the making of this chain too young to enter the army, but was pressed into service then as a teamster, and was employed in hauling sections of the chain from the furnace to Windsor. As the ships of the British never

¹ *Ibid.*: Certificates of the Treasurer of the state of New York, Nos. 37777, 37778.