

that France had detailed the Count de Rochambeau with a large army to aid the United States, and the first division was already on its passage. * * * * The only drawback was found in the entirely unprepared condition of the United States to provide for their support, and to furnish an equivalent army force, so as to make the joint operations more effective. * * * *

"It was not on battle-fields, north or south, that the entire interest of the period concentrated. The southern army was numerically weak, and the northern army was hungry. On the twenty-fifth of May, two Connecticut regiments mutinied, declaring that they would march home, 'or at least gain subsistence by the point of the bayonet.' Handbills printed in New York were secretly circulated, urging the soldiers to desert. 'This mutiny,' says Washington, quite impressively, 'has given infinite concern. * * * * This is a decisive moment, one of the most; I will go farther and say the most important America has seen. The court of France has made a glorious effort for our deliverance, and if we disappoint its intentions by our supineness, we must become contemptible in the eyes of all mankind.'"

Six days after the Count de Rochambeau's arrival at Newport, Rhode Island, "with nearly six thousand French troops, constituting the first division of a corps of twelve thousand men, which Louis XVI. had designated as aid to the United States in their war for national independence," he wrote to Count de Vergennes, saying:

"Upon our arrival here, the country was in consternation, the paper money had fallen to sixty for one. * * * * I spoke to the principal persons of the place, and told them, as I write to General Washington, that this was merely the advanced guard of a greater force, and that the king was determined to support them with his whole power. In twenty-four hours their spirits rose, and last night all the streets, houses, and steeples were illuminated, in the midst of fireworks and the greatest rejoicings."

"On the twenty-fifth of August Sir Henry Clinton wrote to Lord Germaine officially, as follows: 'At this new epoch of the war, when a foreign force has already landed, and an addition to it is expected, I owe it to my country, and I must in justice say to my own fame, to declare to your lordship that I become every day more sensible of the utter impossibility of prosecuting the war in this country without reinforcements. * * * * We are, by some thousands, too weak to subdue this rebellion.'" ¹

Upon the decease of Brigadier-General Petrus Ten Broeck, Colonel Jacobus Swartwout, who had been and was then representing in the state legislature as an assemblyman the people of the southern district of Dutchess County, was

¹Battles of the American Revolution. By Henry B. Carrington, pp. 486, 488, 490, 491, 492, 503, 504, 505.