

Numerous anecdotes such as this one in Henry Lee's Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department (1812) record Morgan's intense patriotism.

While Morgan was in confinement at Quebec the following anecdote, told by himself, manifests the high opinion entertained by the enemy of his military talents from his conduct in this assault. He was visited occasionally by a British officer, to him unknown; but from his uniform, he appeared to belong to the navy, and to be an officer of distinction. During one of his visits, after conversing upon many topics, "he asked Morgan if he did not begin to be convinced that the resistance of America was visionary? and he endeavored to impress him with the disastrous consequences which must infallibly ensue, if the idle attempt was persevered in, and very kindly exhorted him to renounce the ill advised under-

taking. He declared, with seeming sincerity and candor, his admiration of Morgan's spirit and enterprise, which he said was worthy of a better cause; and told him, if he would agree to withdraw from the American and join the British standard, he was authorized to promise him the commission, rank, and emoluments of a colonel in the royal army," Morgan rejected the proposal with disdain; and concluded his reply by observing, "That he hoped he would never again insult him in his distressed and unfortunate situation by making him offers which plainly implied that he thought him a rascal." The officer withdrew, and the offer was never repeated.

An excellent sketch of Morgan appears in J. D. Bailey's Some Heroes of the American Revolution (1924), from which this description (Morgan's movement into South Carolina and his preliminary preparations for the meeting with Tarleton at Cowpens) is taken. It should be noted, however, that when Bailey quotes Morgan directly, he does so only by virtue of dramatic license. The excerpt from Lee, in this instance, probably represents more accurate history.

On December 16, 1780, orders came for Morgan to march, and leaving Charlotte, he crossed the Catawba and Broad rivers and pitched his camp at the Grindal Shoals on the east bank of the Pacolet, on Christmas Day. Soon after his arrival at the Grindal Shoals, Morgan was joined by a body of North Carolina militia under the command of Major Joseph McDowell. The first and second Spartan regiments under Colonels John Thomas and Thomas Brandon took post close to Morgan. At the same time, McCall's regiment, which was a part of Pickens' brigade, joined his standard; and also a party of Georgians under Majors Jackson and Cunningham came up.

Having no supplies, Morgan's army must subsist by foraging, and, being in a section long overrun by Tories, his parties sent out for this purpose must need go long distances. A body of two hundred Tories, down in Laurens County, advanced as far as Fairforest Creek to embarrass their operations. Morgan immediately detached two hundred mounted militia and seventy-five calvarymen, under Colonels Washington and McCall, and falling on the Tories at a place called Hammond's Store, destroyed them.

These bold movements on the part of the Americans made Cornwallis fear for the safety of Ninety-Six, so on the 1st of January, 1781, he ordered Tarleton, who had already advanced as far as Brierley's Ferry, now Strother, on Broad River, to move toward Ninety-Six, with special instructions that he "push Morgan to the utmost." Tarleton's corps consisted of about eleven hundred men, five hundred of which belonged to his dreaded legion, which had carried desolation into every part of the State. After moving some twenty miles, Tarleton found that Ninety-Six was safe and Morgan quite a distance from that point. He then proposed to Cornwallis

**The Battle of
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Sir Banastre Tarleton: These passages are taken from the Dictionary of National Biography, Tarleton - A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781, in the Southern Provinces (1787), and Henry Lee - Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department (1812).

TARLETON, SIR BANASTRE (1754-1833), general, third son of John Tarleton (1719-1773), merchant, of Liverpool, and mayor of that city in 1764, and of his wife Jane (*d.* 1797), eldest daughter of Banastro Parker of Cuerden, Lancashire, was born in his father's house in Water Street, Liverpool, on 21 Aug. 1754. He was educated at Liverpool and Oxford University, and was entered in one of the inns of court, but on 20 April 1775 a commission as cornet in the king's dragoon guards was purchased for him. He obtained leave to accompany Lord Cornwallis [see CORNWALLIS, CHARLES, first MARQUIS] as a volunteer to North America, when he took out reinforcements, in Sir Peter Parker's squadron.

Tarleton sailed from Portsmouth on 26 Dec. 1775, and from Cork harbour on 12 Feb. 1776, arriving on 8 May at Cape Fear, North Carolina, where Sir Henry Clinton the elder, with his small force, awaited this reinforcement. He accompanied the army under Clinton to the attack of Charleston, arriving there on 4 June; took part in the unsuccessful operations of 28 and 29 June, re-embarked with the troops on 15 July, and sailed on the 21st for Staten Island, where Clinton's force joined the main army under Sir William (afterwards fifth Viscount) Howe, commander-in-chief. Tarleton served, under Sir William Erskine, who commanded the cavalry, in the operations against New York at the end of August, and was present at the capture of that city on 15 Sept., at the battle of White Plains on 28 Oct., at the capture of Fort Washington on 16 Nov., and of Fort Lee on 18 Nov.

Tarleton commanded the advanced guard of the patrol under Colonel (afterwards Lord) Harcourt, which on 13 Dec. made a successful dash and captured the American general, Lee, who, reconnoitring three miles away from his army, had stopped with his escort for breakfast at a farmhouse. He took part in the operations in January 1777, under Lord Cornwallis, in the neighbourhood of Brunswick, Princeton, and Trenton. His merits led to his rapid promotion in the local forces, and he was promoted to be captain in Harcourt's horse, and appointed a brigade major of cavalry.

In July 1777 Tarleton proceeded by sea with the army under Sir William Howe, to the Delaware and Chesapeake, disembarking in the Elk river on 25 Aug. He took part in the battle of Brandywine on 11 Sept., in the capture of Germantown on the 25th, and of Philadelphia on 27 Sept.; in the action at Germantown on 4 Oct., and in the operations connected with opening up communication with the fleet by the Delaware, on 12 May. Tarleton was mentioned with high praise in Clinton's despatch. Lord Cornwallis now moved on Camden in pursuit of a force under the American Lieutenant-colonel Burford. Finding him, however, too far advanced to be overtaken

War with France necessitated concentration of the British forces in America, and on 18 June Sir Henry Clinton, who had succeeded Howe in the chief command, evacuated Philadelphia, and commenced his march to New York. Tarleton took part in the cavalry skirmishes along the line of march, and in the battle of Red-bank Court-house on 28 June, and arrived in New York with the army on 5 July 1778. He was engaged in the various expeditions from New York, and was singled out by Clinton for the arduous post of lieutenant-colonel commandant of the British legion. A force originally of light infantry (first raised and commanded by Captain Sutherland, one of Clinton's aides-de-camp, under the name of the 'Caledonian volunteers'), the British legion, towards the close of 1778, was commanded by Sir William Schaw Cathcart (tenth Baron Cathcart), under whom its organisation was changed to a mixed force of cavalry and light infantry. The legion cavalry acquired, from the colour of its facings, the name of Tarleton's 'Green Horse.' Tarleton was promoted to be brevet major in the British service on 11 Aug. 1779.

Tarleton sailed for New York in command of the British legion with the expedition under Clinton against Charleston on 26 Dec. 1779, and lost nearly all his horses on the voyage, owing to tempestuous weather. He disembarked on John Island, thirty miles from Charleston, on 11 Feb. 1780. With difficulty Tarleton supplied the places of the lost horses. At the close of the month of March the whole force crossed Ashley river, and ground was broken within eight hundred yards of the enemy's works. By a skilful movement Tarleton surprised three regiments of the enemy's horse (Pulaski's legion, Washington's horse, and Bland's or White's dragoons) on 14 April, at Bigging Bridge, near Monk's Corner, and again on 6 May at Lenew's Ferry, and destroyed them, capturing all their stores and baggage and four hundred horses. He was thus enabled to horse his legion in an efficient manner. These enterprises were attended with innumerable difficulties; rivers had to be crossed and a strongly posted enemy dislodged. Tarleton scoured the country and cut off all communication with Charleston by his light troops, although the place was not completely invested by the army. Charleston capitulated on 8 May. Tarleton was mentioned with high praise in Clinton's despatch.

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by his main body, he despatched Tarleton in pursuit, with the cavalry of his legion, part of his infantry on horseback, and a 3-pounder gun. After a march of 105 miles in fifty-four hours, he caught up Burford at Waxhaws, on the borders of the two Carolinas, at 3 p.m. on 29 May, at once brought him to action, and defeated his superior force with great slaughter, taking four pieces of artillery, five colours, and all the baggage, which contained stores and clothing for the garrison of Charleston. He rejoined Cornwallis, who now assumed command of the army in Carolina on the departure of the commander-in-chief for New York.

On 1 June Cornwallis entered Camden, and the following day, in his despatch to Sir Henry Clinton, expressed 'the highest encomiums' of Tarleton's conduct. Clinton in his despatch to Lord George Germain dated 5 June, points out 'that the enemy's killed, wounded, and taken exceed Lieutenant-colonel Tarleton's numbers with which he attacked them.'

The victory of Camden gained by Cornwallis on 16 Aug. 1780 over the American general, Gates, was completed by a charge of cavalry under Tarleton against infantry and artillery, and a pursuit continued for upwards of twenty miles from the field of battle, when all the baggage and the last piece of the enemy's ordnance were taken. Cornwallis, in his despatch of 21 Aug., again commended Tarleton's 'capacity and vigour.' On the morning of 17 Aug. Tarleton was detached with the legion cavalry and infantry, and the corps of light infantry—350 men all told—to attack General Sumpter wherever he could find him. He executed the service, says Cornwallis, 'with his usual activity and military address' by surprising Sumpter on 18 Aug. at Catawba Falls. He totally destroyed or dispersed his detachment, consisting then of seven hundred men, killing 150 on the spot, taking two pieces of brass cannon, three hundred prisoners, and forty-four wagons.

In November 1780 Sumpter again made his appearance in the north-west of the province, and Tarleton was directed to proceed by the nearest route against him. After cutting to pieces part of Sumpter's rearguard at a ford upon the Enoree, Tarleton pressed on, on 20 Nov., with only the cavalry and eighty-six mounted men of the 63rd regiment, some 150 men in all, leaving the infantry and the 3-pounder gun to follow more leisurely. He came up with Sumpter about 5 p.m. at Blackstock Hill. After an obstinate fight, in which Sumpter was badly wounded and placed hors de combat, three of his colonels

would shortly send forces into the neighborhood of their homes, to revenge the defeat of the Tories at Mobley's Meeting-House. With a force of only seventy-five men—for about fifty had dropped off on the way—Colonel Bratton and Captain McClure, having received intelligence of the position and numbers of the enemy, marched to within a short distance of their encampment. The Whigs arrived at night, and after concealing their horses in a swamp, Bratton himself reconnoitered the encampment, advancing within the line of sentinels. The party of Americans divided to enclose the enemy; one-half coming up the lane, the other being sent round to take the opposite direction. Huck and his officers were still sleeping when the attack commenced, and were aroused by the roar of the American guns. Huck made all speed to mount his horse, and several times rallied his men; but his efforts were unavailing: the spirit and determined bravery of the patriots carried all before them. The rout was complete. As soon as Huck and another officer fell, his men threw down their arms and fled.* Some were killed, or mortally wounded; some perished in the woods; the rest escaped, or were made prisoners. In the pursuit the conflict raged around Bratton's house; and Mrs. Bratton and her children, anxious to look out, were in some danger from the shots. She made her little son, much against his will, sit within the chimney. While he was there, a ball struck against the opposite jam, and was taken up by him as a trophy. The battle lasted about an hour; it was bloody, though brief; and it is stated that the waters of the spring, which now gush forth so bright and transparent, on that memorable spot, were then crimsoned with the tide of human life. About daylight, when the firing had ceased, Mrs. Bratton ventured out, anxious, and fearful of finding her nearest and dearest relatives among the dead and wounded lying around her dwelling. But none of her loved ones had fallen. Her house was opened alike to the wounded on both sides; and she humanely attended the sufferers in person, affording them, indiscriminately, every relief and comfort in her power to bestow; feeding and nursing them, and supplying their wants with the kindest and most assiduous attention. Thus her lofty spirit was displayed no less by her humanity to the vanquished, than by her courage and resolution in the hour of danger. After the death of Huck in battle, the officer next in command became the leader of the troops. He was among the prisoners who surrendered to the Whigs, and they were deter-

* It is said that Huck was shot by John Carrol, who, as well as his brother Thomas, was a brave and daring soldier, his valor being always of the most impetuous kind. A brief, but characteristic description of him has been given by another Revolutionary hero: "He was a Whig from the first—he was a Whig to the last; he didn't believe in the Tories, and he made the Tories believe in him."

mined to put him to death. He entreated, as a last favor, to be conducted to the presence of Mrs. Bratton. She instantly recognized him as the officer who had interfered in her behalf and saved her life. Gratitude, as well as the mercy natural to woman's heart, prompted her now to intercede for him. She pleaded with an eloquence which, considering the share she had borne in the common distress and danger, could not be withstood. Her petition was granted; she procured his deliverance from the death that awaited him, and kindly entertained him till he was exchanged. There is hardly a situation in romance or dramatic fiction, which can surpass the interest and pathos of this simple incident.

Instances of the noble daring of the women of that day, thus thrown "into the circle of mishap," and compelled to witness so many horrors, and share so many dangers, were doubtless of almost hourly occurrence. But of the individuals whose faithful memory retained the impression of those scenes, how few survive throughout the land! Enquiries made on this subject are continually met by expressions of regret that some relative who has within a few years descended to the grave, was not alive to describe events of those trying times. "If you could only have heard — or — talk of Revolutionary scenes, volumes might have been filled with the anecdotes they remembered!" is the oft-repeated exclamation, which causes regret that the tribute due has been so long withheld from the memory of those heroines.

The defeat of Huck had the immediate effect of bringing the Whigs together; and in a few days a large accession of troops joined the army of Sumter. The attack on the British at Rocky Mount was shortly followed by a complete victory over them at Hanging Rock.

Another anecdote is related of Mrs. Bratton. Before the fall of Charleston, when effectual resistance throughout the State was in a great measure rendered impossible by the want of ammunition, Governor Rutledge had sent a supply to all the regiments, to enable them to harass the invading army. Many of these supplies were secured by the patriots in the back country, by secreting them in hollow trees and the like hiding-places; others fell into the hands of the enemy or were destroyed. The portion given to Colonel Bratton was in his occasional absence from home confided to the care of his wife. Some loyalists who heard of this, informed the British officer in command of the nearest station, and a detachment was immediately sent forward to secure the valuable prize. Mrs. Bratton was informed of their near approach, and was aware that there could be no chance of saving her charge. She resolved that the enemy should not have the benefit of it. She therefore immediately laid a train of powder from the depot to the spot where she stood, and, when the detachment came in sight, set fire to the train, and blew it up. The explosion that greeted the ears of the foe, informed them that the object of their expedition was frustrated.

worthy purpose to overcome the fear of death, on the least reverse they would take to flight, and lurk about like thieves even when threatened with no immediate danger. They exercised power, when it was in their hands, with cruelty, often with wanton barbarity, and the consciousness of deserving no mercy tended to increase their apprehensions. The whigs, on their part, while they frequently showed unexpected clemency, seldom evinced a want of courage or address.

Some years after the Revolution, James and Mary Johnston removed from Chester to Fairfield District, and settled on Wateree Creek. The inhabitants of this district, with the exception of a brave band—the Wynns, the Durhams, Buchanan, Strother, Milling, and others, had generally submitted, and joined the British when they overran the country. In this locality James and Mary performed, in the peaceful walks of private life, a nobler work than at the stormy period of the war. They agreed between themselves that they would never introduce the subject in the presence of their new neighbors. It might be a sore one to them, and they reasoned—“it would be cruel to wound their feelings; they have been on the wrong side, and are now convinced of it; it was their misfortune if they lacked knowledge, or wanted courage to pursue the right; they have good hearts, and it is in our power to make them friends, and while treating them as friends, now in time of peace, we may mould them into good citizens, doing ourselves and the country a service. Why should we act the cowardly part of trampling upon a humbled foe? let us rather take them by the hand and raise them up.” Thus it was—

while Starke and Durham, who had suffered by the loyalists, refused to countenance any, that the jovial Johnston would be surrounded by crowds of them, causing them nearly to split their sides with laughter. They would say to one another—“We used to fear him as the devil, but he knows how to treat us! Who would not stand up for Johnston, equally brave in war and peace?” When we consider the state of feeling in the country, it will appear that there was no little heroism in this course. The same generosity was shown by many of the patriots, who, heartily forgiving their “erring brethren,” refrained from wounding their feelings, and evinced their confidence by elevating them, in some cases, to official positions of power and influence. This magnanimous conduct might rebuke the political demagogues of the present day, reminding them that the proscriptive spirit of party was not that of the patriots of Seventy-six. In Chester, many sons of the tories were not surpassed by any in devotion to the republican party, and in the war of 1812, they rallied to the country's standard, as well as those of Fairfield District, now esteemed one of the most patriotic in the State. It may not be amiss to mention, as illustrative of the good feeling that prevailed in the Johnston family towards their late opponents—that Ellen, a sister of Mary, was married to John Ferguson, a son of the tory Colonel who fell in the action at Williamson's.