MINUTES of the

Commissioners for detecting and defeating Conspiracies

ALBANY COUNTY SESSIONS, 1778-1781 Edited by Victor Hugo Paltsits, State Historian

VOLUME 1:1778-1779



PUBLISHED by the STATE OF NEW YORK, ALBANY, 1909

William Moore and Christopher Lake were brought before this Board on suspicion of having been with the Enemy and no Positive proof appearing either as to their having been there, or that their going at large might be dangerous to the State — Therefore 1778 Apr. 16.

Resolved That they be permitted to return to their usual place of abode upon entring into Recognizance with Surety for their future good behaviour and appearance Monthly before any of the Commissioners in this County or sooner if required —

They were accordingly bound as follows - Viz!

William Moorein		£100
Christopher Lakein		100
John Johnson of Hosick their	r Bail	100

Jonathan Brown and John Wiltsie charged the same, as above, were also permitted to return to their usual Places of abode as the last abovementiond

Jonathan Brown was boundin	€100
Caleb Brown his Bailin	100
John Wiltsie was boundin	100
Abner Pease his Bailin	100
All of Phillips Town	

John Scott, Adam Johnson, Peter Johnson, William Brisbin and Rowland Perry were brought before this Board for having remained on their Habitations when General [8] Burgoyne penetrated into the County, and it appearing to this Board that the said Persons above named, had not the means wherewith to move their Families and effects, and they having previous to that time, and since Burgoynes Captivity evinced their friendliness to the Cause of America—

Ordered Thereupon That they be permitted to return to

1778 Apr. 18. Ordered Thereupon That a Mittimus be made out to keep them confined till such time as they be discharged by this Board or any other three of the Commissioners

John Werner, Isaac Valkenburgh and Arent Halenbeeck were brought before this Board, and nothing appearing against them, — their examination appear in No. 3.

Ordered That they be permitted to return to their place

of abode -

Adjourned till 2 OClock P.M.

Met according to Adjournment

Present.

John M. Beeckman
John McClung

Isaac D. Fonda
Matthew Visscher

Christiaen Schoolcraft and James Small were brought before this Board, and nothing appearing against them

Ordered That they be discharged and permitted to return

to their usual place of abode

Henry Van Corlaer was brought before this Board for having been with the Enemy and it appearing that he was a Young Man who had been seduced thereto by evil and designing Men —

Ordered Thereupon That he be also discharged and permitted to return to his usual place of abode upon entring into Recognizance for his future good behaviour and Monthly appearance before one of the Commissioners He was accordingly bound in £100 —

1778 Apr. 20 [14]

April 20th

Present

John M Beeckman \ John McClung | Jer V Rensselaer

& Committed to this Goal & Eight Examination taken before Said Board — upon file — Carle Miller Nº 5. Philip Singer Nº 6 - Isaac Scowton N° 7 Cha[r]les DeBo N° 8 — Asa Flint N° 9 — John Wickhoffs - 10 Philip Switzer Nº 11 & Beriah Chelson Nº 12 Jonathan Chase, Daniel Chase, & James Lake were Liberated by this Board because no Material Crimes were al[le]dged agt them. David Sprague his Bail..... Jonathan Chase.... David Sprague his Bail..... 100 James Lake..... 100 [blank] his Bail..... 100 mett according to Adjournment [16] Present John M Beeckman) Hugh Mitchell James M^oMaster Isaac D Fonda John McClung James McMaster According to Letters Directed to the Commissioners in Tryon County appeared in the Board. tuck [took] the Oath prescribed & his Seat accordingly -Daniel Mosher & Ishmeal Rynolds being Brought before the board for having been in the Enemys Camp were permitted to take the Oath of Aligeance & Entered into Recognizance for their future Good Behaviour.

Benja Reynolds his Bail.....



100

100

tering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly May 11.

Appearance

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Asa Flint on Recognizance in..... £200 — "—
Cornelius Doty his Bail... in...... £200 — "—
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[35] George Wilson of Cambridge District was permitted to return to his usual Place of Abode on his entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance —

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George Wilson on Recognizance in . . . £200 — " —
James Ashton his Bail . . . . . . in . . . £200 — " —
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Thomas Lake of Cambridge District was eliberated on his entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance

```
Thomas Lake on Recognizance in . . . £200 — " —
Benjamin Tiffany his Bail . . . . in . . . £200 — " —
```

Mf John Ryley appeared before the Board with a Number of Men whom he had enlisted for the Purpose of ranging about the Woods and doing such Services as should be requested of them by the Commissioners the Form of which Inlistment is in these Words

"We the Subscribers do voluntarily inlist ourselves into the ranging Service under the Command of Cap! John Ryley and to continue in said Service until the last Day of October next unless sooner discharged by the Commissioners appointed for detecting & defeating all Conspiracies which may be formed in this State or any three of them or any legal Authority for which Service we are to receive from the said Commiss!" six Shillings per Day & one Ration of Provisions and we do hereby promise and engage to obey the Orders of said Commissioners or any three of them and the Orders of such Officers as they may think proper to set over us"

James Concklin on Recognizance in £100 — " — Dirck Heemstrat his Bail in £100 — " —	1778 May 13.
Johannis Shaver Jun! was permitted to return to his	
Place of Abode on entering into Recognizance for good	
Behaviour [and Monthly Appearance]	
Johannis Shaver Jun: on Recog-	
nizancein£300 — "—	
Johannis Shaver his Bail in£300 — " —	
John Vincent was permitted to go at large on entering into	
Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance	
John Vincent on Recognizance in £100	
Nicholas Teachout his Bail in £100 - "-	
Adjourned till 9 O Clock to Morrow Morning -	
[40] Met pursuant to Adjournment 14th May 1778 —	1778 May 14
Present	,
John M. Beekman) (Mathew Visscher	
John M. Beekman Mathew Visscher Isaac D. Fonda John McClung	

Arent Van Corlaer was brought before the Board and we having enquired into the Nature of his Commitment and finding no material Charge against him (save that of gowing to the Enemy last Summer) we have thought proper to set him at Liberty he behaving as becometh & conforming to the Laws & Customs of the State of New York & entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour & Monthly Appearance

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Arent Van Corlaer on Recognizance in £100 — " —
Baltus Van Benthuysen his Bail. . . . in £100 — " —
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McGrigor Van Iveren of Schohary was permitted to [go] at large on entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance before any of the Justices of Schohary

1 The words here within brackets have been scored out in the manuscript.

Robbery committed at Henry Van Renselaer's to which they were supposed to be Accessory and finding the Supposition rather groundless we have thought proper to set them at Liberty on entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour

Received a Letter from Col! Robert Van Rensselaer informing that he sent to us under Guard Peter Mesick & Dirck Vosburgh Ordered that they be committed to Prison & also ordered that the Treasurer pay Eight Dollars to the Guard as Part of their Pay and take their Receipt

Nicholas Lake was permitted to return to his usual Place of Abode on entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance

Nicholas Lake on Recognizance in... £100 — "— Abraham Schuyler his Bail.... in... £100 — "—

Michael Plass was brought before the Board and we having examined into the Nature of his Offence and finding nothing special against him we have thought proper to set him at Liberty on entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance

Michael Plass on Recognizance .in. .. £100 — " — Bastian Visscher his Bail in . . . £100 — " —

[50] John Brock of Cinkaik was permitted to return Home on his entering into Recognizance for good Behaviour and Monthly Appearance

¹The original voucher is in Revolutionary Manuscripts, vol. 40, p. 163, State Comptroller's office, made out in favor of Peter Bont. [116] Met pursuant to Adjournment — Albany 29th July 1778 — 1778 July 29.

Present

John M. Beekman
Jeremiah Van Renselaer
Hugh Mitchell
Cornelius Humfrey

Isaac D. Fonda Egbert Benson Mathew Visscher Petrus Wynkoop Jun'

John Henry Lake a Hessian Deserter from the British Army appeared before the Board and it appearing that he had during his Residence heretofore behaved himself in a becoming Manner ordered that he have Leave to go at large in this County

Marte Van Buren appeared according to Citation and being tendered the Oath prescribed by the Act he refused to take it

Ordered that he prepare and hold himself in Readiness to be removed into the Enemies Lines on the shortest Notice —

Received a Letter from the Commissioners of Charlotte County informing that they sent to us under Guard William Moffat who was last Summer with the Enemy and whose remaining there may prove dangerous to the Safety of the State Ordered that he enter into Recognizance to remain in this City and to behave himself in a becoming Manner—

William Moffat on Recognizance in ... £100 - -

Received a Letter from Col! Peter Vrooman informing that he sent to us under Guard John Howard who was apprehended somewhere to the Westward that he looks upon him as a very suspicious Character and therefore requests that he may be closely confined Ordered that the said John Howard be taken into Custody and that the Goaler be requested to receive him —

[117] Leonard Gansevoort Jun! Secretary to this Board

MINUTES of the

Commissioners for detecting and defeating Conspiracies
IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

ALBANY COUNTY SESSIONS, 1778-1781

Edited by Victor Hugo Paltsits, State Historian

VOLUME II:1780-1781



PUBLISHED by the STATE OF NEW YORK, ALBANY, 1909

1780 Oct. 7. Nicholas Lake having been heretofore cited to appear before the Board appeared before us this day to enter into a new Recognizance resolved that he enter into the same with a sufficient surety and that he be bound for his good Behaviour, doing his duty, and appearing before any three of the Commissioners for Conspiracies whenever called [241] upon during the continuance of the present war with Great Britain —

A Return signed by John Younglove Esq! was laid before us wherein he specifies that he has agreeable to An Act of the Legislature for the Removal of the Families of Persons who have joined [the] enemy ordered the following persons to depart this State or remove to such parts of it as are in the power of the Enemy, (to wit) Elizabeth Hogle the wife of John Hogle, Jane Hogle wife of Francis Hogle and three Children of Simeon Covell ordered that the said return be filed —

Elizabeth Hogle one of the weomen named in the above return made by John Younglove Esq! appeared before the Board and requested Permission to remain at her Habitation assigning as a reason that her Husband was killed at the Battle of Bennington and the same being certified to us by sundry well affected inhabitants of this County and that the said Elizabeth Hogle has since the going away of her Husband behaved herself in a becoming manner —

It is therefore resolved that a permit be granted to the said Elizabeth Hogle for the above purpose —

Resolved that Henry Van Corlaer who was heretofore bound in a recognizance for his good Behaviour and appearance before this Board when called be cited to appear forthwith with a suffi- [242] cient surety to enter into Recognizance of anew —

1780 Oct. 7.

A Return signed by John Bebee Esq! one of the Justices of the peace for this County was laid before the Board wherein he specifies that agreeable to an Act of the Legislature of this State entitled an Act for the Removal of the Families of Persons who have joined the enemy he has warned the following persons to depart this State or remove to such parts of it as are in the power of the Enemy, (to wit) Jerusha Ingram wife of Benjamin Ingram Jun!, Mary McCarty wife of Duncan McCarty, Lucretia Woodward wife of David Woodward & Abigail Woodward wife of Josiah Woodward -

Lucretia Woodward and Jerush[a] Ingraham two of the women named in the above return appeared before the Board and requested Permission to remain at their Habitations and produced to the Board Certificates from sundry of the well affected Inhabitants of this County of their good Character and that their remaining in the Country will not be detrimental to the Freedom & independence of this and the United States in consequence of which Certificates and recommendations—

It is resolved that a permit be granted to the said Lucretia Woodward and Jerusha Ingraham —

John Tunnicliff appeared before the Board and requested Permission to go to Tryon County in Search of some Horses and other Effects that were unjustly taken from him and converted to the Private use of several Individuals in the said County—

Resolved that agreeable to the said request [243] the said John Tunnicliff have Permission granted him to go to Tryon County in search of the said Horses and Effects —

Captain Jarvis Mudge appeared before the Board & re-

OATHS1

I............ do solemnly swear and declare in the presence of Almighty God that I ought not and do not acknowledge any Allegiance to the King of Great Brittain, his Heirs or Successors or any power or Authority of the Parliament of the said Kingdom of Great Brittain, and that I will bear true faith and Allegiance to the State of New York as a free and Independant State, and that I will in all things to the best of my knowledge and Ability do my Duty as a good Subject of the said State ought to do, So help me God,

Ebenezar Allen Joseph Greenman Adam Vrooman Benjamin Greenman ju! Daniel Chase Mindert Van Hoesan his Jeremije mullr Jonathan X Chase his . Mark William X Bartel James X Lake Mark Daniel Mosher his Mathewis X Pool [Signatures] Ishmel Reynolds Mark his Van Hining his John х Tobias X Salsbury Mark Charles Near Mark his John Cobham³ Nicholas X Boss Mark his Х Finehout Jacob Mark his Peter X Finehout Mark

From the manuscript minutes, vol 1, pp. 240-243.

^{*}These signatures were attached to the oath at various times in 1778 and 1779.

MINUTES of the Commissioners for detecting and defeating Conspiracies IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

ALBANY COUNTY SESSIONS, 1778-1781 Edited by Victor Hugo Paltsits, State Historian

VOLUME III: ANALYTICAL INDEX



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