

The Significance of Kings Mountain

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Unit Objectives:

Students will exhibit knowledge of the unique aspects of the southern campaign of the American Revolution and its importance in achieving victory. This lesson will be preceded by a lecture/discussion on the Great Wagon Road and the migration of the Scots-Irish into the backcountry with emphasis on the differences between the Low Country and Back Country. Necessary background will include the stalemate in the northern campaign, the willingness of the British to keep the Southern colonies and let the troublesome north go, and the apparent wisdom of that strategy with the taking of Charleston in 1780. What changed the trend toward a British victory in the southern colonies? To paraphrase Dr. Walker: if Clinton had not revoked the paroles of Patriots captured at Charleston...if the brutality that began at the Waxhaws had not occurred or perhaps not continued...if men like Francis Marion and Andrew Pickens had gone quietly into the night...if Ferguson hadn't made the overmountain men angry....if the fighting in the backcountry did not turn into an insurgency struggle that kept Cornwallis continually off balanced...lots of what if's! Easily the southern campaign warrants more importance than our textbooks provide. Hopefully, the students will exhibit a knowledge of that by the end of this unit.

Plan: My students are advanced 10th graders, so this reading, particularly the War College parts, may seem difficult. I prefer short passages, and I provide vocabulary: like partisan, insurgency. I divide students into groups and they distribute the passages among group members. Each student reads and answers "scaffold" questions, usually straight content. Then the group comes together to share information and begin to construct a group "product." I generally insist that every student turn in a product. I tell the students it can contain the same content and information, but I find that each student puts his own flavor into it. That is simply how I avoid one group member doing all the work...do what works for you!

Students will do mapwork concurrently with this assignment tracing Cornwallis's route through South Carolina into North Carolina and ultimately Yorktown.

Students will examine artwork of the battle (another lesson).

The importance of Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse will also be stressed.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will explain who fought at Kings Mountain, why they fought, and why it was significant in the southern campaign of the American Revolution.

Students will analyze the factors that made this battle and much of the campaign characteristic of a Civil War.

Students will exhibit their knowledge in a letter written home about the battle. They will be assigned either a Tory or Patriot position. An option could be to assign them to be from a particular region, reporting on what they see: a Pennsylvania loyalist reporting on what he sees in the backcountry.

Readings:

1. What Happened at Kings Mountain?

“Upon the surrender of Charleston, Clinton (British commander on chief) considered that...the subjugation of the Province had been accomplished, and that, with this showing of the power of the Crown, most of the inhabitants would join the loyal cause. It would be necessary, of course, to occupy the country with a considerable land force, and thereby give protection to loyal sympathizers, but it was thought that the British regular force under his command would be augmented by Tory militia, who would aid in keeping the revolutionists suppressed. Cornwallis commanded in the field.”¹

“The rout of the Patriot army under General Gates at the Battle of Camden on August 16, 1780, and Tarleton’s defeat of militia Colonel Thomas Sumter at Fishing Creek two days later encouraged the British and stunned the Patriot cause.”²

Note: Gates literally ran from Camden ahead of his troops. Thomas Sumter was a partisan leader whose defeat was significant.

“On June 30 he (Cornwallis) wrote to Clinton that there was an end to all resistance in South Carolina. Now that the strongholds in the northwest part of South Carolina were in his possession, Cornwallis thought he could leave this Province in security, and march... into the back part of North Carolina, ‘with the greatest probability of reducing that Province to its duty.’

Cornwallis wrote in regard to his contemplated move into North Carolina: *‘I am of opinion that (besides the advantage of possessing so valuable a Province) it would prove an effectual barrier for South Carolina and Georgia; and could be kept, with the assistance of our friends there...’*¹

“Partisan military bands led by Francis Marion and others continued to attack isolated British forces and interrupt their supply and communications lines. Between raids some militiamen headed home...Others took their families across the mountains to safe haven in the North Carolina settlements...(near present day East Tennessee).²

What is Cornwallis's expectation after Charleston is taken?

Who does he expect help from?

What two defeats have the Patriots suffered? Indicate Camden on the map.

Where does Cornwallis plan to go? What is your guess is his ultimate object?

To where are the partisans fleeing?

2. Cornwallis after Camden and Sumter, a guerilla leader, is defeated:

"I have given orders, that the inhabitants of the province, who have taken part in this revolt, should be punished with the greatest rigour; and also those who will not turn out, that they may be imprisoned, and their property taken from them, or destroyed. I have likewise ordered, that compensation be made out of their estates, to the persons who have been injured or oppressed by them. I have ordered, in the most positive manner, that every militia man who has borne arms with us, and afterwards joined the army, shall be immediately hanged. I desire you will take the most rigorous measures to punish the rebels in the district in which you command; and that you obey in the strictest manner the directions I have given in this letter, relative to the inhabitants of this country." --- Lord Cornwallis 6

While Ferguson (Col. Patrick Ferguson, a British regular officer) was at Gilbert Town he paroled one of his prisoners and sent him into the mountains with a message to the leaders there, 'that if they did not desist from their opposition to the British arms, and take protection under his standard, he would march his army over the mountains, hang their leaders, and lay their country waste with fire and sword.'" 1

Note: The backcountry men vowed to get Ferguson before he got them. They came from Virginia, North Carolina, and what is now East Tennessee.

More than 1000 riflemen met at the appointed gathering place, Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River, on September 26th. They took three days crossing the Blue Ridge and descending down into the Catawba watershed. Whig spies now began reporting on Ferguson's movements; he had become aware of "a swarm of backwoodsmen" and had turned east back toward the protection of Cornwallis and the British regulars. At the Cowpens the overmountain group joined up with 400 South Carolinians on Oct 6. They learned that Ferguson was camped to the east on a narrow flat-topped mountain called Kings Mountain. He was about thirty miles away.

"They rode through a night of rain-their long rifles protected in blankets-and arrived at Kings Mountain after noon, Saturday, Oct 7." They divided into two columns and at three o'clock in the afternoon attacked. The rain muffled sounds of their approach.³

What did Cornwallis order? What impact would it have on those who supported the King or were 'straddling the fence?'

How did Ferguson anger men living “over the mountain?” How did they respond?

Where specifically did the people who fought come from? Indicate it on a map. How many?

How long did they travel?

What is the date?

3. “The loyalists rained down a volley of musket fire, but the forested slopes provided good cover for the attackers. The patriots...dodged from tree to tree to reach the summit.” On the third attack, the patriots reached the summit. Ferguson was killed, shot six to eight times. “A white flag hoisted, but despite loyalist cries of surrender, the patriot commanders could not restrain their men. Filled with revenge they continued to shoot their terrified enemy for several minutes, until Campbell(Whig commander) finally regained control.”³

“In a little over an hour they killed or captured his (Ferguson) entire command.”⁴ The entire left flank of Cornwallis’s army was gone.

Many of the prisoners of the partisans were executed. Officers were able to stop some of it. This was called “Tarleton’s Quarter,” from when the British officer, Banastre Tarleton, executed Americans under Buford’s command who were surrendering at the Waxhaws. Some say Tarleton’s actions contributed to the continued blood-letting that was going on in the backcountry between the partisans and the loyalists.

“These hardy men of the Blue Ridge and Alleghenies ...seldom were concerned with affairs beyond their borders... When Ferguson approached their kingdom and threatened to invade their lands he aroused their indignation and anger... they determined to rid the country forever of this enemy, who menaced their independence and the safety of their homes and families. Had Cornwallis and his leaders known more about these mountain and backwater men, they would have carefully avoided all military and punitive measures which might tend to draw them from their mountain fastnesses to enroll amongst the enemies of the King.

The Battle of Kings Mountain was fought by men on both sides whose bravery should be a matter of pride to all posterity. The troops commanded by Ferguson were Americans, or persons who had come to the Provinces prior to the Revolution...These men were Loyalists, and they gave their services to the Crown with the same high sense of duty which prompted their brothers and neighbors to rebel against further domination by Great Britain. Supplementing the Provincial Corps was a greater number of Tory militia, enrolled in the Carolinas...some because of their belief that the government of the mother country should continue, others because of expediency so that their lands and possessions might be given the protection of the British flag, still others-served as soldiers of fortune under the flag which they believed would be successful...”¹

Were traditional 18th century rules of warfare followed here?

Men from what areas fought with Ferguson? Did that surprise you?

Why did they fight with him (at least two reasons)?

How does this piece term the enemy?

4. In both the Carolinas there was a large number of citizens, and probably a majority, whose sympathies at one time or another in 1780 were with the Royal Government. They believed that a rebellion could not, and should not, succeed....General Greene wrote on the 23d of May, 1781, more than five months after he had assumed command of the Southern Army:

“The animosity between the Whigs and Tories of this State renders their situation truly deplorable. There is not a day passes but there are more or less who fall a sacrifice to this savage disposition. The Whigs seem determined to extirpate the Tories and the Tories the Whigs. Some thousands have fallen in this way in this quarter, and the evil rages with more violence than ever. If a stop can not be put to these massacres, the country will be depopulated in a few months more, as neither Whig nor Tory can live.”¹

“Kings Mountain was the beginning of the successful end to the Revolution, assuring independence for the United States. On an unimposing and obscure mountain, Americans fought Americans to determine their destiny. The citizen militia of the community, the predecessors of today’s National Guard and Reserves – like volunteer fire departments – organized to protect their community.”⁵

In what ways were the British unrealistic and/or realistic in expecting significant support from the South?

What words does Greene use to describe the animosity between the Whigs and Tories? Give three.

How would you describe this battle, and in fact, much of the fighting in the back country?

Assess why the partisans were fighting. Was it for personal or idealistic reasons?

To summarize as a group:

Write a one to two page account of what happened emphasizing cause and effect. You are either a loyalist or a partisan from the backcountry and are writing home. What caused the battle? What causes you in the backcountry to go with one group or the other? How can this battle be viewed as more “Civil War” than “Revolution?” How do you feel about all this fighting????

- 1 <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/books/RevWar/KM-Cpns/AWC-KM-FM.htm>: Army War College Report of 1928
- 2 “The Turn of the Tide” Resource and Activity Guide for Teachers second Edition January 2006 Kings Mountain National Military
- 3 www.tngenweb.org/revwar/kingsmountain.html: C. Hammett: The Battle of King’s Mountain
- 4 Kings Mountain National Military Park, South Carolina, National Park Service, Dept of the Interior
- 5 Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, National Park Service, Dept of the Interior
- 6 <http://www.americanrevwar.homestead.com/files/MARION.HTM>: Francis Marion

Enrichment:

Read the following accounts of the battle, one from a Loyalist who was there and one from a Virginia militaman.

Answer:

1. Were these sources meant to be public or private? Does it matter? Why?
2. When was each created? Does that impact the truthfulness of it?
3. How does each man’s account relate to what we have learned? How are they different?
4. What details about the war do you note you didn’t know before?
5. Why do documents such as these matter?

We can ask questions about the creator, but also about the publisher, distributor, owner, interpreter, and ourselves based on primary documents.

We need to be skeptical and ask questions:

Consider the source! We need to consider the point of view and biases of the creators and distributors.

“The past doesn’t change but our understanding of it does.”

(above kindly borrowed from Bridget Marshall@uml.edu)

BATTLE OF KING'S MOUNTAIN

By Benjamin Sharp

As well as I can remember, some time in August, in the year 1780, Col. MCDOWELL, of North Carolina, with three or four hundred men, fled over the mountains to the settlements of Holston and Watauga, to evade the pursuit of a British officer by the name of FERGUSON, who had the command of a large detachment of British and Tories. Our militia speedily embodied, all mounted on horses—the Virginians under command of Col. William CAMPBELL, and the two western counties of North Carolina, now Tennessee, under Cols. Isaac SHELBY and John SEVIER; and as soon as they joined MCDOWELL, he re-crossed the mountains, and formed a junction with Col. CLEVELAND, with a fine regiment of North Carolina militia.

We were now fifteen or eighteen hundred strong, and considered ourselves equal in number, or at least a match for the enemy, and eager to bring them to battle; but Colonel MCDOWELL, who had the command, appeared to think otherwise, for although FERGUSON had retreated on our crossing of the mountains, he kept us marching and counter-marching, for eight days without advancing a step towards our object. At length a council of the field-officers was convened, and it was said in camp, how true I will not pretend to say, that he refused in council to proceed without a general officer to command the army, and to get rid of him, the council deputed him to General Green, at headquarters, to procure a general. Be this as it may, as soon as the council rose Colonel MCDOWELL left the camp and we saw no more of him during the expedition.

As soon as he was fairly gone, the council re-assembled, and appointed Col. William CAMPBELL our commander, and within one hour after, we were on our horses and in full pursuit of the enemy. The British still continued to retreat, and after hard marching for some time, we found our progress much retarded by our footmen and weak horses that were not able to sustain the duty. It was then resolved to leave the footmen and weak horses under the command of Capt. William NEIL, of Virginia, with instructions to follow as fast as his detachment could bear.

Thus disencumbered, we gained fast upon the enemy. I think on the 7th [6th] day of October, in the afternoon, we halted at a place called the Cowpens, in South Carolina, fed our horses, and ate a hasty meal of such provisions as we had procured, and, by dark mounted our horses, and after marching all night, crossed Broad river by the dawn of day; and although it rained considerably in the morning, we never halted to refresh ourselves or

horses.

About twelve o'clock it cleared off with a fine cool breeze. We were joined that day by Col. Williams, of South Carolina, with several hundred men; and in the afternoon fell in with three men who informed us that they were just from the British camp, that they were posted **on the top of King's Mountain**, and that there was a picket-guard on the road not far ahead of us. These men were detained lest they should find means to inform the enemy of our approach, and Col. Shelby, with a select party, undertook to surprise and take the picket; this he accomplished without firing a gun or giving the least alarm, and it was hailed by the army as a good omen.

We then moved on, and as we approached the mountain, the roll of the British drum informed us that we had something to do. No doubt the British commander thought his position a strong one; but our plan of attack was such as to make it the worst for him he could have chosen. The end of the mountain to our left descended gradually to a branch; in front of us the ascent was rather abrupt, and to the right was a low gap through which the road passed. The different regiments were directed by guides to the ground they were to occupy, so as to surround the eminence on which the British were encamped; CAMPBELL's on the right, along the road; SHELBY's next, to the left of him; SEVIER's next, and so on, till last the left of CLEVELAND's to join the right of CAMPBELL's, on the other side of the mountain, at the road.

Thus the British Major found himself attacked on all sides at once, and so situated as to receive a galling fire from all parts of our lines without doing any injury to ourselves. From this difficulty, he attempted to relieve himself at the point of the bayonet, but failed in three successive charges. CLEVELAND, who had the farthest to go, being bothered in some swampy ground, did not occupy his position in the line till late in the engagement. A few men drawn from the right of CAMPBELL's regiment, occupied this vacancy; this the British commander discovered, and here he made his last powerful effort to force his way through and make his escape; but at that instant CLEVELAND's regiment came up in gallant style; the Colonel, himself, coming by the very spot I occupied, at which time his horse had received two wounds, and he was obliged to dismount.

Although fat and unwieldy, he advanced on foot with signal bravery; but was soon re-mounted by one of his officers, who brought him another horse. This threw the British and Tories into complete disorder, and FERGUSON seeing that all was lost, determined not to survive the disgrace; he broke his sword, and spurred his horse into the thickest of our ranks, and fell covered with wounds, and shortly after his whole army

surrendered with discretion. The action lasted about one hour, and for most of the time was fierce and bloody.

I cannot clearly recollect the statement of our loss, given at the time, but my impression now is that it was two hundred and twenty-five killed, and about as many or a few more wounded; the loss of the enemy must have been much greater. The return of the prisoners taken was eleven hundred and thirty-three, about fifteen hundred stand of arms, several baggage wagons, and all their camp equipage fell into our hands. The battle closed not far from sundown, so that we had to encamp on the ground, with the dead and wounded, and pass the night among groans and lamentations.

The next day, as soon as we could bury our dead, and provide litters to carry our wounded, we marched off to regain the upper country for fear of being intercepted by a detachment from the army of Lord CORNWALLIS, for we were partly behind his quarters, between him and the British garrison of Ninety Six. A British surgeon, with some assistants, were left to attend their wounded; but the wounded Tories were unprovided for, and their dead left for their bones to bleach upon the mountain.

That afternoon we met Capt. NEIL coming on with his detachment, and encamped for the night on a large deserted Tory plantation, where was a sweet potato patch sufficiently large to supply the whole army. This was most fortunate, for not one in fifty of us had tasted food for the last two days and nights, that is, since we left the Cowpens. Here, the next morning, we buried Col. Williams, who had died of his wounds on the march the day before. We still proceeded towards the mountains as fast as our prisoners could bear.

When we had gained a position, where we thought ourselves secure from a pursuit, the army halted for a day, and a court was detailed to inquire into various complaints against certain Tories for murders, robberies, house-burning, &c. The court found upwards of forty of them guilty of the crimes charged upon them, and sentenced them to hang; and nine of the most atrocious offenders were executed that night by fire-light, the rest were reprieved by the commanding officer.

We set off early next morning, and shortly after the rain began to fall in torrents, and continued the whole day, but, instead of halting, we rather mended our pace in order to cross the Catawba river before it should rise and intercept us; this we effected late in the night, and halted by a large plantation, when Major MCDOWELL—brother of the Colonel, and who commanded his brother's regiment the whole route, and was a brave and efficient officer—rode along the lines, and informed us that the plantation

belonged to him, and kindly invited us to take rails from his fences, and make fires to warm and dry us.

I suppose being the last of October, and every one, from the Commander-in-Chief to the meanest private, was as wet as if he had just been dragged through the Catawba river. We rested here one day, and then proceeded, by easy marches, to the heads of the Yadkin river, where we were relieved by the militia of the country, and permitted to return home, which those of us who had not fallen in battle or died of wounds, effected some time in November.

During the whole of this expedition, except a few days at the outset, I neither tasted bread nor salt, and this was the case with nearly every man; when we could get meat, which was but seldom, we had to roast and eat it without either: sometimes we got a few potatoes, but our standing and principal rations were ears of corn, scorched in the fire or eaten raw. Such was the price paid by the men of the Revolution for our Independence.

Here I might conclude, but I cannot forbear offering a small tribute to the memory of our commanding officers. Col. Williams; CLEVELAND, I have already spoken of; SEVIER, I did not see in the battle, but his bravery was well attested; three times my eye fell upon our gallant commander [CAMPBELL], calm and collected, encouraging the men, and assuring them of victory. At the close of the action, when the British were loudly calling for quarters, but uncertain whether they would be granted, I saw the intrepid SHELBY rush his horse within fifteen paces of their lines, and commanded them to lay down their arms, and they should have quarters. Some would call this an imprudent act, but it showed the daring bravery of the man. I am led to believe that three braver men, and purer patriots, never trod the soil of freedom, than CAMPBELL, SHELBY and SEVIER.

King's Mountain

Extract of a Letter from Anthony Allaire

Extract from a letter from an officer, dated Charlestown, January 30th, 1781.

This gentleman went from New York with a detachment drawn from the Provincial Brigade, which was commanded by the brave Major Patrick FERGUSON.

This letter gives the most circumstantial account yet received of the action at King's Mountain, in South Carolina, Oct. seventh.

"I think the last letter I wrote you was from Fort Moultrie, which I left a few days after.

We marched to a place called Ninety Six, which is about two hundred miles from Charleston; we lay there about a fortnight in good quarters, after which we proceeded to the frontiers of South Carolina, and frequently passed the line into North Carolina, and can say with propriety, that there is not a regiment or detachment of his Majesty's service, that ever went through the fatigues, or suffered so much, as our detachment.

That you may have some faint idea of our suffering, I shall mention a few particulars.

In the first place we were separated from all the army, acting with the militia; we never lay two nights in one place, frequently making forced marches of twenty and thirty miles in one night; skirmishing very often; the greatest part of our time without rum or wheat flour-rum is a very essential article, for in marching ten miles we would often be obliged to ford two or three rivers, which wet the men up to their waists.

In this disagreeable situation, we remained till the seventh of October, when we were attacked by two thousand five hundred Rebels, under the command of Gen. Williams.

Col. FERGUSON had under his command eight hundred militia, and our detachment, which at that time was reduced to an hundred men.

The action commenced about two o'clock in the afternoon, and was very severe for upwards of an hour, during which the Rebels were charged and drove back several times, with considerable slaughter.

When our detachment charged, for the first time, it fell to my lot to put a Rebel Captain to death, which I did most effectually, with one blow of my sword; the

fellow was at least six feet high, but I had rather the advantage, as I was mounted on an elegant horse, and he on foot.

But their numbers enabled them to surround us and the North Carolina regiment, which consisted of about three hundred men.

Seeing this, and numbers being out of ammunition which naturally threw the rest of the militia into confusion, our gallant little detachment, which consisted of only seventy men, exclusive of twenty who acted as dragoons, and ten who drove wagons, etc., when we marched to the field of action, were all killed and wounded but twenty, and those brave fellows were soon crowded into an heap by the militia.

Capt. DePEYSTER, on whom the command devolved, seeing it impossible to form six men together, thought it necessary to surrender, to save the lives of the brave men who were left.

We lost in this action, Maj. FERGUSON, of the Seventy-first regiment, a man strongly attached to his King and country, well informed in the art of war, brave, humane, and an agreeable companion-in short, he was universally esteemed in the army, and I have every reason to regret his unhappy fate.

We lost eighteen men killed on the spot-Capt. RYERSON and thirty-two Sergeants and privates wounded, of Maj. FERGUSON's detachment.

Lieutenant M'GINNIS of ALLEN's regiment, Skinner's brigade, killed; taken prisoners, two Captains, four Lieutenants, three Ensigns, one Surgeon, and fifty-four Sergeants and privates, including the wounded, wagoners, etc.

The militia killed, one hundred, including officers; wounded, ninety; taken prisoners about six hundred; our baggage all taken, of course.

The Rebels lost Brig.-Gen. Williams, and one hundred and thirty-five, including officers, killed; wounded nearly equal to ours.

The morning after the action we were marched sixteen miles, previous to which orders were given by the Rebel Col. Campbell (whom the command devolved on) *that should they be attacked on their march, they were to fire on, and destroy their prisoners.*

The party was kept marching two days without any kind of provisions. The officers' baggage, on the third day's march, was all divided among the Rebel officers.

Shortly after we were marched to Bickerstaff's settlement, where we arrived on the thirteenth.

On the fourteenth, a court martial, composed of twelve field officers, was held for the trial of the militia prisoners; when, after a short hearing, they condemned thirty of the most principal and respectable characters, whom they considered to be most inimical to them, to be executed;

and, at six o'clock in the evening of the same day, executed Col. MILLS, Capt. CHITWOOD, Capt. WILSON, and six privates; obliging every one of their officers to attend at the death of those brave, but unfortunate Loyalists, who all, with their last breath and blood, held the Rebels and their cause as infamous and base, and as they were turning off, extolled their King and the British Government.

On the morning of the fifteenth, Col. Campbell had intelligence that Col. TARLETON was approaching him, when he gave orders to his men, that should Col. TARLETON come up with them, they were immediately to fire on Capt. DePEYSTER and his officers, who were in the front, and then a second volley on the men.

During this day's march the men were obliged to give thirty-five Continental dollars for a single ear of Indian corn, and forty for a drink of water, they not being allowed to drink when fording a river; in short, the whole of the Rebels' conduct from the surrender of the party into their hands is incredible to relate.

Several of the militia that were worn out with fatigue, and not being able to keep up, were cut down, and trodden to death in the mire.

After the party arrived at Moravian Town, in North Carolina, we officers were ordered in different houses. Dr. JOHNSON (who lived with me) and myself were turned out of our bed at an unseasonable hour of the night, and threatened with immediate death if we did not make room for some of Campbell's officers;

Dr. JOHNSON was, after this, knocked down, and treated in the basest manner, for endeavoring to dress a man whom they had cut on the march.

The Rebel officers would often go in amongst the prisoners, draw their swords, cut down and wound those whom their wicked and savage minds prompted.

This is a specimen of Rebel lenity-you may report it without the least equivocation, for upon the word and honor of a gentleman, this description is not equal to their barbarity. This kind of treatment made our time pass away very disagreeably.

After we were in Moravian Town about a fortnight, we were told we could not get paroles to return within the British lines; neither were we to have any till we were moved over the mountains in the back parts of Virginia, where we were to live on hoe cake and milk;

in consequence of this, Capt. TAYLOR, Lieut. STEVENSON and myself, chose rather to trust the hand of fate, and agreeable to our inclinations, set out from Moravian Town the fifth of November, and arrived at the British lines the twentieth.

From this town to Ninety Six, which was the first post we arrived at, is three hundred miles; and from Ninety Six to Charlestown, two hundred, so that my route was five hundred miles.

The fatigues of this jaunt I shall omit till I see you, although I suffered exceedingly; but thank God am now in Charlestown in good quarters."

The Royal Gazette, (New York), February 24, 1781.