



#3 1997

An Ordinance For Regulating The Cloathing Department For The Armies Of The United States.

Prior to 1775, when the Continental Army was established in the flurry of activity around Boston, the only army units in the British colonies which wore uniforms of any sort were the British Regulars. Parliament and the British Army commanders never considered the colonists as equals. When the British Army was dispatched to America during the French and Indian War, the colonists were expected to assist in the military actions, but certain restrictions were applied to their participation. One such restriction was that the Americans were not entitled to wear the British Army uniform. And so, despite nearly twenty years of serving alongside their British cousins, the colonist soldiers went to war in their everyday clothes.

In June of 1776 the delegates who had assembled in Philadelphia in the Continental Congress were flooded with requests for supplies from all quarters. A committee consisting of Thomas Jefferson, Carter Braxton, Robert Paine and Arthur Middleton was established to go through a large number of the requests, and to digest and arrange them so that less time would be taken up by the entire Congress when it would meet as a "committee of the whole" to consider and vote on them. One of the articles which the committee brought to the Congress for consideration on 17 June was a request that stockings and shoes be provided for the troops in Canada, and that in time "a sufficient number of leathern breeches and under waistcoats, and such other winter cloathing" be also obtained and forwarded to the troops. No action was taken at that time, but on the 19th of June, 1776 the Congress passed the following resolution:

"That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions of the United Colonies, forthwith to cause a fuit of cloaths, of which the waiftcoat and breeches may be made of deer leather, if to be had on reafonable terms, a blanket, felt hat, two fhirts, two pairs of hofe, and two pair of fhoes, to be manufactured, or otherwise procured at reafonable rates, in their repective colonies, for each foldier of the American Army, inlifted therein for the prefont campaign, and that the fame be baled, invoiced, and ftoed in fuitable places, to be delivered to the order of Congrefs, or the commander in chief of the American Army."

On 08 October, 1776 the Congress approved a resolution that each soldier should receive twenty dollars worth of clothing as a bounty for their service to the Patriot Cause. If the clothing could not be procured by the commanding officers, it was resolved that the soldiers should be paid that sum in order to obtain the articles of clothing for themselves.

The problem that arose was that in 1776 the Continental Congress did not possess any inherent power, and there was no guarantee that any resolution it passed would be accepted and acted upon

by any of the individual provinces. It could only be *recommended* to the individual colonies that they should provide clothing for the troops. Unfortunately, the clothing, in many cases and for one reason or another, did not materialize. It was reported during the October 31, 1776 session *"that sundry inhabitants of these United States, to keep supplies from the army, or to promote their own interests, have purchased considerable quantities of cloathing, and refuse to dispose of the same, unless upon extravagant or unreasonable terms."*

On the 23rd of September, 1776 a resolution was passed which established a committee of three *"to devise ways and means for providing cloathing and other necessaries for the army."* Whether that committee ever came up with any suggestions is not recorded in the *Journals of the Continental Congress*. On the 25th the Congress resolved that a committee be established consisting of one delegate from each province, with the authority to employ people in their respective provinces to purchase blankets and woolen cloth which would be used to make clothing for the troops.

The situation was not completely bleak; at times quantities of clothes and other essential articles were obtained. On 22 October, 1776 a report was made to the Congress that the brig *Marquis of Kildare* had arrived safely at Portsmouth harbor bearing, among other articles, four to five hundred jackcoats, one hundred leggins and a large quantity of canvas, linen and woolens. On 16 February, 1777 the "Secret Committee" (which had been established on 18 September, 1775 originally to contract with foreign nations for the importation of gunpowder) reported to the Congress that their agents, Abraham Livingston and William Turnbull, had purchased a quantity of clothing for the army valued at £36,000. (On 04 April, 1777 the Secret Committee would report that their agents had purchased, to that time, \$140,000 worth of clothes for the army.) On the 25th of the same month a report was made to Congress that a privateer belonging to the State of New York had arrived at Baltimore carrying a quantity of woolens suitable for clothes for the army.

James Mease was appointed as a commissary on 25 January, 1776 to handle the supplying of clothing and other articles to the battalions which had recently been raised in Pennsylvania. On 09 October, 1776 the delegates assembled in Congress passed a resolution calling for a "commissary of cloathing" to be appointed "for each of the armies of the United States" for the purpose of providing clothing for those armies. On Friday, 27 December, 1776 the Congress passed a resolution empowering General Washington to appoint a clothier general. General Washington's choice for Clothier General was James Mease. In a letter dated 04 March, 1777 General Washington informed Mr. Mease of his appointment to the position, and stated that he would receive a salary of \$150 per month. The new Clothier General was instructed:

"...as early as pofsible, to lay before the private committee of Congrefs, an Eftimate of the Cloathing of differest kinds necefsary for the next campaign, with the Colours of the Cloths proper to put the Troops into diftinct Uniforms, which is a thing that cannot pofsibly be done this year. As many of the Con~tinentall Regiments have already fixed upon a Uniform, and the Officers have, in Confequence thereof, provided themfelves with Regimental fuitable thereto, it would be proper to make yourfelf acquainted with the Regiments that have fixed their Uniforms, and in your arrangement of drefs, take care to continue them in the fame, otherwife the Stock of Cloathing that the Officers have provided for themfelves will be ufelefs to them..."

On 17 April, 1777 General Washington again wrote a letter to Mr. Mease in which he made various recommendations on the colors that he wished to have the army clothed in. He particularly liked the combination of brown and white or brown and buff. He especially suggested that Colonel Moylan's regiment should change their uniforms' colors from red and blue to anything else because of the confusion it would create in battle when they faced the Queen's Dragoons in similar colors.

Mr. Mease proceeded to attempt to procure clothing for the army, and more than once in the following months, he requested assistance from the Congress. They, in turn, passed resolutions that the individual provinces (or states as they were becoming known) to assist in raising the necessary funds for the purchase of clothing. The "Committee on the Treasury" submitted a report based on a letter received from General Gates to the Congress on 06 September, 1777 which stated that the Clothier General had ordered "considerable supplies of cloathing to be forwarded to the army in the northern department from Boston" and that he had little doubt that he would be able to furnish such supplies over the course of a year. The Committee recommended that the commanding officers of each company should be diligent in keeping an account of the clothing provided to the troops under

their command, and that reports be sent to the Clothier General so that all troops should be treated fairly in their receipt of clothing.

The report presented to Congress by the Committee on the Treasury noted that each and every soldier should receive the following articles. One regimental coat (valued at \$8-60/90); one jacket without sleeves (\$2-60/90); one pair of buckskin and two pair of linen or woolen breeches (\$8); one hat or leathern cap (\$2-60/90); two shirts (\$8); one hunting shirt (\$4); two pair overalls (\$6); two pair of stockings (\$4); two pair of shoes (\$6); and one blanket (\$6). The total cost of the articles amounted to \$56, which exceeded the amount that had been originally allotted per soldier in 1776.

On 14 November, 1777 the Congress received word from agents who had been dispatched to France and Spain to purchase clothing for 80,000 men, that such supplies would be forthcoming from France "by the setting in of winter."

The encouraging news from France was received shortly after the Congress received a letter from General Washington requesting urgently needed clothing for his army which had just recently engaged the British in the Battle of White Marsh, and which was preparing to establish a camp to the northwest of Philadelphia in the Chester Valley, in the vicinity of the Valley Forge owned and operated by John Potts. The letter of General Washington, dated 11 November, 1777 stated:

"The condition of the Army for want of Cloaths and Blankets, and the little prospect we have of obtaining relief according to the information I have received from the Board of War, occasion me to trouble you at this time. The mode of seizing and forcing supplies from the Inhabitants, I fear, would prove very inadequate to the demands, while it would certainly embitter the minds of the People, and excite perhaps a hurtful jealousy against the Army. I have had Officers out for the purpose of purchasing and making voluntary collections of necessaries and in a few instances, more coercive measures have been exercised. But all these have proved of little avail. Our distresses still continue and are becoming greater..."

To add to General Washington's distress was word received that certain of the supplies already directed to his army had been hindered by his own peers. A letter he sent to Major General Israel Putnam dated the same as the above letter noted:

"Since I wrote to you this morning Mr. Young Deputy Clothier has arrived from Peekskill and informs me that you stopped 400 of the Blankets and one Cart of Shoes that were coming on for the use of this Army. You cannot conceive how these stoppages by the way disappoint and disarrange our plans; the Clothier General endeavors to give each their share, but by such proceedings those that are farthest off go naked. There are now in this Army, by a late return four thousand Men wanting Blankets (near 2,000 of which have never had one, although some of them have been twelve months in Service.)"

Over the course of the next few years, the Congress continued to struggle with the problem of being able to afford and procure clothing. On 22 November, 1777 the Congress discussed a letter from Stephen Hopkins in which the seventh article recommended that the Legislatures of the respective States should furnish and supply the soldiers (already enlisted, or thereafter enlisted, in the Continental Army from those States) with blankets, shoes, stockings and other *warm cloathing*. The Congress postponed making a decisive resolution on that article at the time, but it was resumed and passed on 26 November. The resolution of 26 November, 1777 specified that the articles of clothing supplied to the soldiers would be priced "*in just proportion to the wages of the officers and soldiers, charging the surplus of the cost to the United States...And all Cloathing hereafter to be supplied to the officers and soldiers of the Continental Army out of the publick stores of the united States: beyond the Bounties already granted, shall be charged at the like Prices, the surplus to be defrayed by the united States.*" A similar resolution was passed on 20 December, 1777 in response to a letter submitted by S.A. Otis. On Thursday, January 1, 1778 the Committee on the Cloathing Department submitted a report to the Congress in which it resolved that every officer and soldier be "*entitled to draw annually the following Articles of Cloathing, paying for the same on Delivery at the Rate of two thirds of a Dollar for one Shilling sterling Cost thereof, in Europe...*"

In May, 1778 the Congress discussed a report from the Committee on the Treasury and, at the same time, approved the payment to Clothier General Mease the sum of \$150,000 and called for a committee to devise a proposal to stop the purchase of anymore clothing for the army by the Clothing Department. On 28 May, 1778 the committee presented its recommendations and the Congress passed a resolution that all further purchases of clothing by the Clothier General or his deputies and agents be suspended and that they be directed to immediately prepare and bring in their accounts to the Board of Treasury to be liquidated and settled. By August the Committee on the Treasury submitted their report of the accounts. There is no mention of whether that accounting was favorably received, but perhaps as a consequence, Mr. Mease submitted a letter to the Congress on 19 September requesting that another person be chosen to take over his position. Then, on 09 October the Committee on the Clothing Department resolved that the Board of War should enquire into the conduct of James Mease in his office of Clothier General *"that it may be known whether the Grievous Sufferings of the Army for want of Clothing, have been owing to his or their Misconduct of Neglect of Duty..."* No further mention of what the Board of War determined in regards to misconduct by James Mease appears in the published *Journals of the Continental Congress*. On Tuesday, 06 April, 1779 the Congress resolved that an advertisement be published in the newspapers of Philadelphia *"informing the public that a proper person is wanted to take upon him the office of clothier general"* and that *"none need apply but such as can produce good recommendations."*

On the 2nd of March, 1779 the Congress passed a resolution requiring the officers of all the companies in the Continental Army to make an accounting of what clothing (or whatever monetary compensation for clothing) the non-commissioned officers and privates in their companies received during the year 1777, and to ascertain who, of their troops, had not received the clothing they had been entitled. They were instructed to produce, along with their reports, any and all vouchers which would serve as proof of receipt and any evidence that would prove non-receipt. The intention, as noted within the body of the resolution itself, was not so much to ensure that the men were properly clothed and supplied with necessities such as blankets, but in order to determine whether *"the clothing issued to divers non commissioned officers and foldiers for the year 1777, exceeds the bounty allowed by Congress."*

In the meantime, while the Congress worried about the expense of clothing the army and if any of the troops were getting clothing that they were not entitled to, the Board of War was concerned about the bureaucracy that the troops had to go through to get compensation for their own purchases of clothing. In a letter to the Congress dated 09 February, 1779 the Board of War noted that:

"During our distrefs laft winter for provifions great Quantities were taken, and in a Multitude of instances freely given to relieve the necefsities of our Army, The people received certificates which after a tedious circuitry of application are ftill unfatiffied. Many of the beft Whigs inhabiting the vicinity of the lines are in this fituation, and of courfe much chagrin'd and difsatisfied."

"On enquiry we find that it is not uncommon in European fervices for Officers at a diftance from magazines or fupplies to get the necefsary Articles from the inhabitants, and give certificates thereof; the payment whereof is never difputed as to the perfon parting with his property."

The Congress, although not stating it in so many words, apparently was tired of worrying about the clothing situation and proceeded with legislation to divorce itself from direct involvement. A committee was set up to study the situation and prepare a report on how the Clothing Department should be handled. On Tuesday, 23 March, 1779 the Congress took into consideration the report submitted by the committee on the Clothing Department. The committee's recommendation that the Clothier General be placed under the direction of the Board of War and the Commander in Chief was approved and the following resolution was passed:

"There fhall be a cloathier general, a fub or Statecloathier for each State, (and) a regimental cloathier.

The cloathier general is to be fubject to the orders of the Board of War and the Commander in Chief. He is to furnifh eftimates of the fupplies wanted for

the army; to apply to the Commander in Chief and Board of War for assistance therein; to make returns of such estimates to them respectively; to receive all supplies imported from abroad, and purchased in the country by continental agents; to superintend the distribution thereof to the State cloathiers; to settle accounts with them at least every six months; to keep regular accounts of all the cloathing he shall receive, as well as of the distribution thereof among the State cloathiers; and to transmit his accounts twice in every year to the Board of Treasury, and settle them in the chambers of accounts when required; and generally to take care, on the one hand, that justice is done to the public, and on the other, that the army receive whatever shall be allowed to them in a regular, direct, and reasonable manner; and at the same time, so to act between the Continent and each particular State, that equal and impartial justice may be done on all sides.

The Sub or State Cloathier

A Sub or State Cloathier is to be appointed by each State respectively, to reside with or near the army, or such detachment thereof in which the troops of the said State may be, as the Commander in Chief shall direct, the better to know and supply their wants. The State appointing him is to be answerable for his conduct. In case of neglect or misbehaviour, he is to be displaced by the Commander in Chief, and his successor to be appointed by the State to which he belonged. He is to receive from the Cloathier general the proportion of cloathing assigned for the troops of his State, out of the public cloathing imported or purchased by continental agents; and from the State for which he is appointed, all the cloathing which may, at continental expence, be purchased in such State; of the latter, their quality and price, he shall transmit exact accounts to the Cloathier general, and, when required, submit the several articles to the inspection of the Cloathier general, or any person for that purpose deputed by him; he is to issue all cloathing supplied as aforesaid to the regimental Cloathiers, on returns signed by the commanding officers of regiments. He is to keep exact returns with each regiment, inspect those of the regimental Cloathiers, see that the articles delivered them are duly issued to the troops; and that all the cloathing procured at continental expence, above the allowance made by Congress, drawn by non-commissioned officers and privates, is charged to them, and credited to the pay roll; and that the commissioned officers receive what is credited to them and no more. He is to keep exact accounts with the Cloathier general in behalf of the public, charging the United States only with what is allowed to the officers and men. Whenever the troops of any State shall have received their proportion of cloathing from the continental stores, the supplies purchased at continental expence by the State to which they belong, or from both, and there shall remain a surplus which may be wanted for other troops not fully supplied, the Sub-Cloathier possessed thereof is to deliver over the surplus to such other State Cloathier as the Cloathier general shall direct, taking duplicate invoices and receipts from the State Cloathier to whom they shall be transferred, one set of which he is to deposit with the Cloathier general, and the other to retain as his own voucher: the Cloathier general on his part making proper entries in his accounts, to do justice to all concerned.

When from a deficiency in the public stores, the troops of any State shall not have received their allowance of cloathing, the State Cloathier is without delay to represent their wants, particularly enumerated in a return for that purpose, to the executive authority of the State to which he belongs, requesting a speedy and adequate supply.

And in case a State, at its own expence, shall give and deposit with him any cloathing, for the more comfortable subsistence of its quota of troops, in addition to the allowance made by Congress, he is strictly to pursue the directions of such State, as well with respect to the distribution, as the vouchers for the delivery, and the manner and time of settling his accounts: transmitting once in every six months a copy of such accounts to the Cloathier general, and as often, and whenever required, to the State to which he belongs.

The Regimental cloathier

The office of regimental cloathier fhall always be executed by the regimental pay mafter. He is to be furnifhed by captains or officers commanding companies with returns, fpecifying the men's names, and the particular wants of each; thefe he is to digeft into a regimental return; which, being figned by the officer commanding the regiment, and counterfigned by himfelf, with a receipt upon it of the fupplies delivered to the regiment, is to be lodged with the State cloathier, and become to him a voucher for the delivery in his fettlement with the cloathier general. He is to keep an account with each officer and foldier for every article delivered, taking a receipt from them, as his voucher for the delivery: he is to credit them for the continental allowance, and to charge them for every thing they receive, making ftoppages in the monthly pay rolls for whatever they may fall in debt to the public beyond the allowance. And to prevent in future unequal diftribution of cloathing, either to the officers or foldiers, and the confufion and complaints which have heretofore been occafioned by irregular applications from commanding officers of regiments to public agents in different pofts, it is hereby ftrictly enjoined on those agents, the cloathier general, and the fub or ftate cloathiers, to ifsue no cloathing on any pretence whatsoever, but in the manner before prefcribed: nor fhall any article be credited to either of them on fettlement of their accounts, which is not fo ifsued and vouched.

And whereaf difcretionary changes of the uniforms of regiments have proved inconvenient and expenfive: the Commander in Chief is therefore hereby authorized and directed, according to the circumftances of fupplies of cloathing, to fix and prefcribe the uniform, as well with regard to the color and facings, as the cut or fafhions of the cloathes to be worn by the troops of the refpective States and regiments, which fhall, as far as poffible, be complied with by all purchafing agents employed by the Congrefs, as well as particular States, by the cloathier general, fub or ftate cloathiers and regimental cloathiers, and all officers and foldiers in the armies of the United States. And where materials can be purchafed inftead of ready made cloathes, it fhall always be preferred, in order that they may be made up by the taylors of the feveral regiments, to fave expence and prevent the difadvantages which the foldiers frequently fuffer from their unfitnefs; and inftead of breeches, woollen overalls for the winter, and linnen for the fummer, are to be fubftituted.

That the Board of War prepare and tranfmit inftructions and forms, according to which the feveral cloathiers are to conduct the bufinefs and fettle their accounts; and that the Board of War report to Congrefs the proper falaries or allowances to be made to the feveral cloathiers for their fervices.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Commander in Chief, having in fuch conference taken into confideration the necefsity of making provifion for the Officers and Troops in the fervice of the United States, on account of the fcarcity and high price of clothing, beg leave to fubmit the following refolution:

Whereas, Congrefs by an act dated the 26th of November, 1777, earneftly recommended to the feveral ftates from time to time to exert their utmoft endeavours to procure, in addition to the allowance of clothing theretofore made by congrefs, fupplies of blankets, fhoes, ftockings, and other clothing for the comfortable fubfiftence of the officers and foldiers of their refpective Battalions, to be diftributed in the manner therein prefcribed: And that all clothing thereafter to be fupplied to the officers and foldiers out of the public ftores of the United States, beyond the bounties already granted, fhould be charged at fuch reafonable prices, or fhould be afsefsed by the Clothier General, and be in juft proportion to the wages of the officers and foldiers: the furplus of the cofts to be defrayed by the United States. But neither the articles of clothing fo to be drawn, nor the price thereof, having been afcertained, nor a fufficient quantity of clothing procured to anfwer the good purpofes of the faid refolution,

Resolved, therefore, that the refpective States be and they are hereby earneftly called upon to continue to exert their utmoft endeavours to procure clothing and blankets for their refpective quotas of Troops; the expence whereof to be

charged to the United States in the manner hereafter mentioned.

That each State shall employ an agent to purchase such clothing, who shall be under the controul and direction of the executive authority of such State, take an oath for the faithful execution of his office, keep regular accounts of all the articles purchased by him and of the application thereof: And once in every six months settle his accounts with such Commissioners as shall be appointed by the executive authority of the State to which he belongs: being therein allowed such recompense for his services as shall be agreed upon by the said executive authority.

That the said agents shall from time to time deliver the clothing so purchased to the State Clothier, to be by him distributed, as also an account thereof, specifying the price paid for every article, and an estimate to be by him made upon his oath of office of the sterling value, cost or price of such articles.

That the cost of such articles so to be bought as aforesaid, together with the charges thereon, shall be paid by the United States, except when the same shall amount to more than at the rate of fifty dollars for one pound sterling; in which case the said States shall be held to pay to the respective State no more than at that rate.

That every commissioned officer in the army of the United States shall, during the war, be entitled to draw annually from the clothier General, or State clothier, the several articles of clothing hereafter specified; paying for the same on delivery at the rate of ten dollars for one pound Sterling: A plain regimental Coat, a cloth and a linen waistcoat, two pair of cloth breeches, six fine linen shirts, six cambrick or muslin stocks, a fine castor hat, six pair of thread, or fine worsted hose, four pair of shoes, one pair of boots, one blanket.

That each non commissioned officer and private be allowed to draw the following articles of extra clothing paying for the same at the rate aforesaid viz: One shirt, one hunting frock, one woolen waistcoat with sleeves, one pair of wooden and one pair of linen overalls four pair of shoes; excepting noncommissioned officers and privates of the cavalry who may draw two only.

That the several State clothiers shall regularly transmit copies of the accounts and estimates of the State agents to the clothier General.

That when neither the clothier general or State clothier shall have it in their power to deliver the articles above allowed or any of them to the officers requiring the same, they shall respectively give such officer a certificate of the articles due to him, and of the price at which such articles were last purchased; deducting what the officers ought to have paid had they been delivered: and the Commander in Chief on the production of such certificates, shall issue his warrant on the Pay Master General in favour of the officer for the amount, exclusive of such deduction.

That in case of detachments from the Army, the clothier general and State clothiers are enjoined to take especial care that both the officers and privates on such detachments are regularly supplied with their entire clothing, or in case of deficiency with certificates; and the privates with the clothing provided for them at continental expence, without waiting for their application; and in this respect the clothier general and State clothiers are to consult with the Commander in Chief and pursue such regulation, as he may find it necessary to establish in order to secure to detachments the advantages hereby provided for them: and the Clothier general, and State clothiers are respectively authorized, with the approbation of the Commander in Chief, to appoint assistants under them to deliver the clothing and to see justice done to the detachments; the assistants to receive such salaries as shall be agreed upon by the Board of War, with the advice of the Commander in Chief, and to take an oath for the faithful execution of their office."

It should not be assumed that the Ordinance Regulating The Clothing Department For The Armies Of The United States cured all the ills that plagued the process of ensuring that the troops were adequately clothed, but it was a major step in the right direction.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAPTER SECRETARY ~ REGARDING THE PLAQUE GIVEN TO BLAIR COUNTY WITH THE NAMES OF 95 PATRIOTS BURIED THERE

On May 10, 1997 the Blair County Chapter made a presentation of a Plaque listing the names of 95 patriots who are buried in Blair County soil. The plaque was the result of three years of painstaking research by the Historian of the Blair County Chapter, Compatriot Larry D Smith.

The ceremony included remarks by E.Merle Glunt, Blair County Chapter President; Marshall Lignian, Registrar and former Secretary of the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the American Revolution; Betty Boslet, Regent of the Colonel John Proctor Chapter, DAR; Sylva Emerson, Past Regent of the Adam Holliday Chapter, DAR; Dawn Harpster, member of the Adam Holliday Chapter, DAR; Blair County Judge Norman D. Callan; and Blair County Judge Hiram A. Carpenter. Musical selections were presented by singer, Kelli Shaw and Bagpiper of the Scottish Highlanders, Jack Linderman. The Glade Rangers, of Somerset County, served as an honor guard for the United States Flag and fired a musketry salute at the close of the ceremony.

The plaque was presented by President E. Merle Glunt to the County of Blair. It was accepted on behalf of the county by Blair County Commissioner Donna Gority.

Approximately sixty persons attended the ceremony, which was held in Courtroom #2 of the Blair County Court House. In addition to a few Compatriot members of the Blair County Chapter, SAR, DAR members from the Colonel John Proctor Chapter, the Adam Holliday Chapter, the Standing Stone Chapter and the Bedford Chapter were in attendance. The event had been publicised in the area newspapers and at the meetings of the local historical societies, and a few interested persons attended because of that publicity. (It would really have been nice if more members of the Blair County Chapter would have attended this truly important ceremony!)

A surprise came in the ceremony when Compatriot Larry D. Smith was presented the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution's Excellence-In-Community Award by Betty Boslet, Regent of the Colonel John Proctor Chapter.

Currently, plans are being made to present and dedicate a plaque to the county of Bedford at some time this fall (1997). Similar plaques will be presented to the county of Fulton and the county of Huntingdon during the year 1998.

P.S. Enclosed with this newsletter is a list (which was given out at the May 10 ceremony) which includes the names of the 95 Patriots buried in Blair County for those of you who were unable to attend the ceremony.

NOTICE

If anyone is interested in making a donation to the Blair County Chapter, SAR for the purpose of funding the dedication/presentation ceremony of a plaque listing the Patriots buried in Bedford County, please send them to:

Larry D. Smith, Treasurer
RR #1, Box 704-A
East Freedom, PA 16637

Any amount will be appreciated. Your donations will allow the plaque to be produced and presented without lowering the balance in our treasury.

3rd QUARTERLY MEETING

The 3rd Quarterly Meeting of the Blair County Chapter, SAR will be held on July 5, 1997 at the Kings Family Restaurant, beginning at 12:00noon. Please plan to attend.