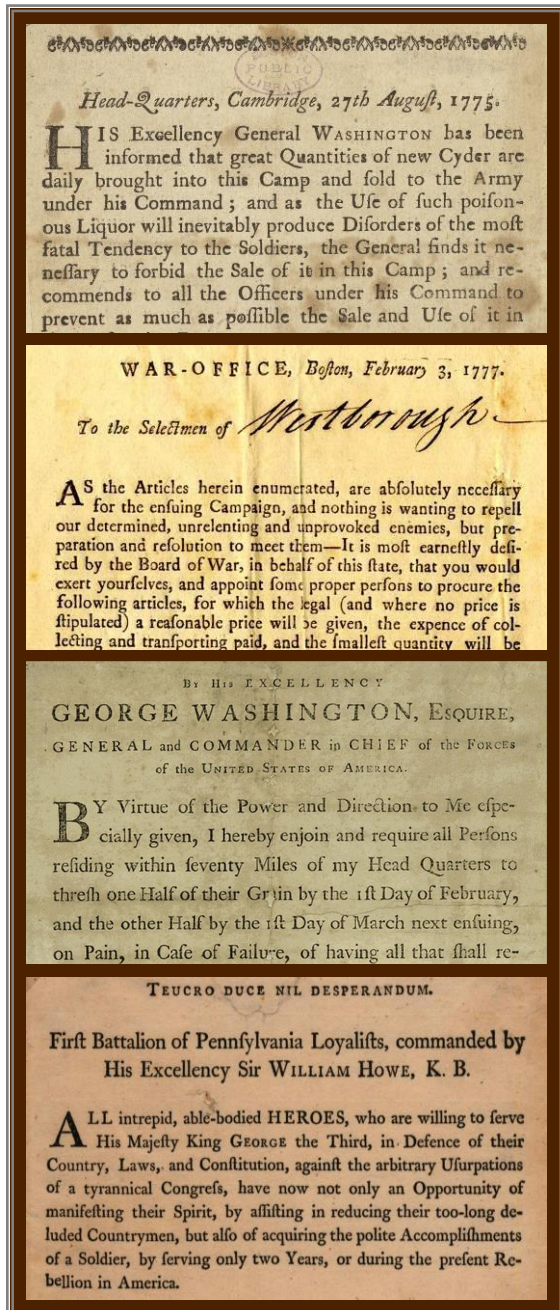


# MILITARY BROADSIDES of the American Revolution

The most immediate form of written communication during the Revolution was the broadside—a one-page handbill printed quickly to spread breaking news and deliver government and military announcements. The Continental Army, Continental Congress, and state and local war agencies printed them continuously to publicize orders and resolutions, requisition supplies from civilians, alert the public to imminent threats from the British army, and proclaim days of thanksgiving and prayer. This collection includes eight American broadsides and one issued by the British army, which used the same medium to distribute news, orders, and requisitions.



- 1775. Call for food and provisions.**  
*Issued by:* Quarter Master General of the Continental Army, Cambridge, Massachusetts.  
*Addressed to:* Civilian merchants and farmers.
- 1775. Ban on selling hard cider to soldiers in camp.**  
*Issued by:* Quarter Master General Thomas Mifflin, Continental Army, Cambridge, Massachusetts.  
*Addressed to:* Civilian merchants and farmers.
- 1776. Call for linen and lint for bandages.**  
*Issued by:* Committee of Observation, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.  
*Addressed to:* Women of Lancaster.
- 1776. Request for aid in the defense of Philadelphia against advancing British troops.**  
*Issued by:* Pennsylvania Council of Safety.  
*Addressed to:* Battalion commanders in Lancaster County.
- 1777. Call for food and provisions.**  
*Issued by:* Massachusetts Board of War.  
*Addressed to:* Town administrators (selectmen).
- 1777. Offer of pardon for deserters.**  
*Issued by:* Major General Israel Putnam, Continental Army, White Plains, New York.  
*Addressed to:* Army deserters who return by January 1, 1778.
- 1777. Notice that unthreshed grain will be seized for army's use and recompensed at low rate.**  
*Issued by:* General George Washington, Continental Army, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.  
*Addressed to:* Farmers within seventy miles of Valley Forge.
- 1777. Call to create a Loyalist battalion.**  
*Issued by:* British army, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
*Addressed to:* Pennsylvania Loyalists.
- 1778. Call to grant amnesty to Loyalists who surrender to authorities.**  
*Issued by:* U.S. Continental Congress.  
*Addressed to:* State legislatures.

CAMBRIDGE, 21<sup>st</sup> August. 1775.

WANTED for the CONTINENTAL ARMY.

One Million of Bricks.

Three Thousand Cords of Fire Wood.

Two Hundred Thousand Feet of Pine Boards and Scantling.

Five Hundred Bushels of Charcoal.

One Hundred and Fifty Tons of *English* Hay.

Twelve Hundred Bushels of Indian Corn.

Twelve Hundred Bushels of Oats.

Three Hundred Shovels.

Three Hundred Spades.

Fifty Pick Axes.

One Hundred and Fifty Hand-Saws.

Five Thousand Bushels of Lime.

One Hundred and Fifty Tons of Rye Straw.

Those Persons who are willing to supply the Army with the Articles above-mentioned, may apply to the Quarter-Master-General, in Cambridge.

1775

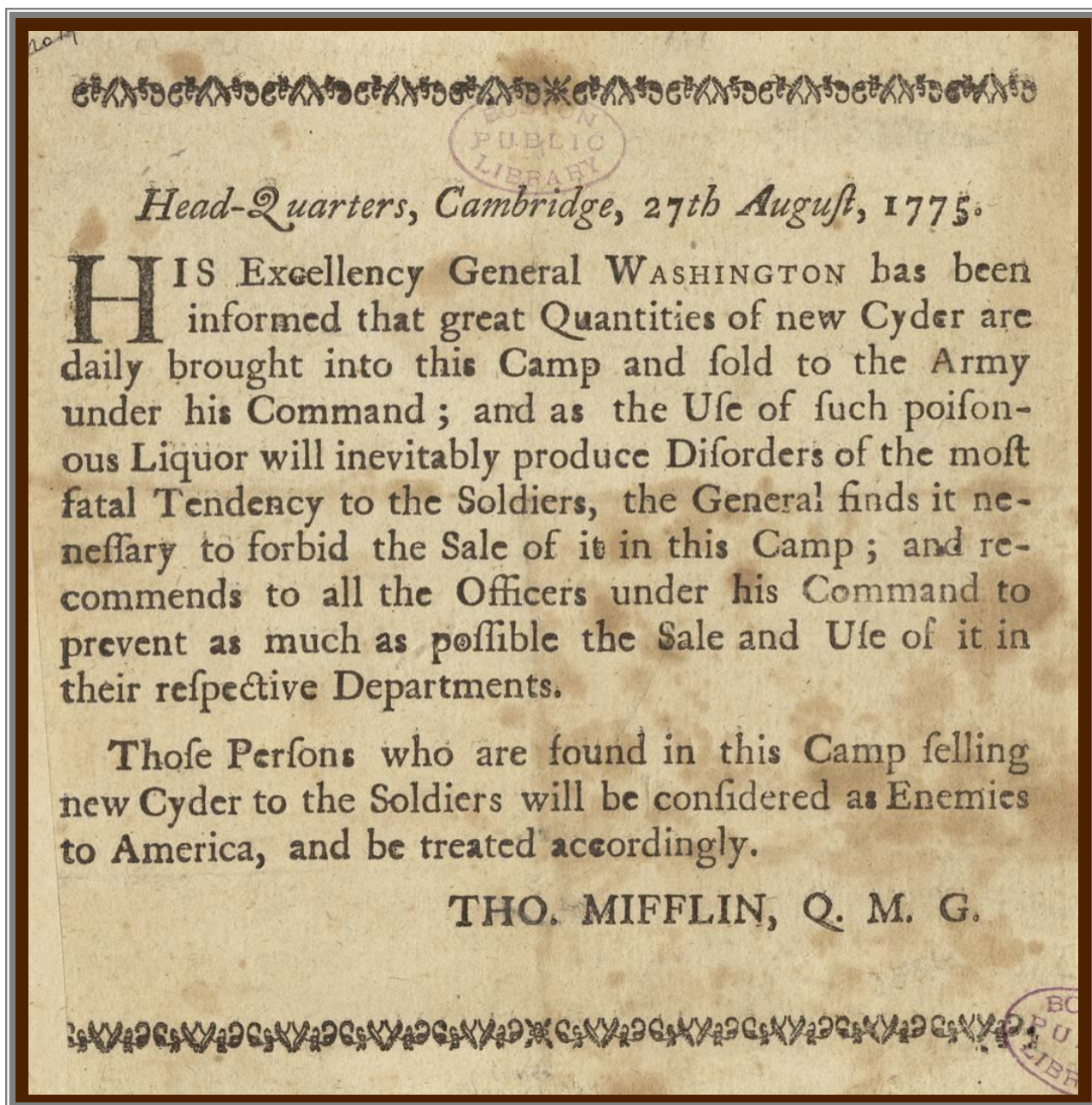
Call to civilian merchants and farmers for food and provisions, issued by Thomas Mifflin, Quarter Master General of the Continental Army under General George Washington, Cambridge (near Boston), Massachusetts, 21 August 1775.

*Scantling*: small timbers used in construction, usually to prescribed dimensions.

*Quarter Master General*: officer in charge of providing food and supplies for an army.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 42951. Reproduced by permission of the Massachusetts Historical Society.





1775

Ban on sale of hard cider to soldiers in camp, issued by Thomas Mifflin, Quarter Master General of the Continental Army, Cambridge (near Boston), Massachusetts, 27 August 1775.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 42952. Reproduced by permission of the Boston [Massachusetts] Public Library.

I N  
C O M M I T T E E,

*Lancaster, February 10, 1776.*

THE Committee considering the Necessity there may be for Linen for Bandages, &c. for the Use of the Army, request of the good Woman of the Borough and County of Lancaster, to collect such as they can conveniently spare from their Families, and send it to the House of Mr Adam Reigart, in the said Borough, where it will be thankfully received, and be disposed of as the Committee shall direct, among the Surgeons of the Army, for Lint and Dressings, for such as may be so unfortunate as to be wounded in defending the Liberties of their Country.

And those who have Leisure to make Lint from old Rags, which they may have, will shew a generous and humane Disposition by so doing, and delivering it at Mr. Reigart's, for the Purposes aforesaid.

*Signed by Order of the Committee,*

GEO. ROSS, *Chairman.*

No. 484

1776

Request to the "good Woman [sic] of the Borough and County of Lancaster" for linen and lint for bandages, issued by the Committee of Observation of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, 10 February 1776.

*Lint*: fine material made by scraping linen or cotton cloth; used for bandages.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 14817. Digital image courtesy of the New York Public Library [sepia tone added].



# IN COUNCIL OF SAFETY,

*Philadelphia, November 14<sup>th</sup> 1776,*

*12 o'Clock, Thursday.*

S I R,

**W**E have certain Intelligence that the Enemy has actually sailed from New-York Five Hundred Ships for this City, and that great Numbers had got out of the Hook on 12 o'Clock Yesterday and were steering towards our Capes: As you value the Safety of your Country, and all that is dear and valuable to Men, we most earnestly solicit your immediate Assistance, and that you will march all your Battalion to this City without the least Delay.

As nothing but the most hasty Marching of the Militia will enable us to make a Stand, it is hoped that your Battalion will manifest their usual Spirit, and come forth on this trying Occasion with the Alacrity that will do them Honour. If you can collect any Shovels, Spades, Grubbing Hoes and Pitching Axes, beg you will bring them forward and the People shall be paid for them a full Price.

*By Order of Council,*

*T H O M A S W H A R T O N, Jun. President.*

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Printed by JOHN DUNLAP, in Market-Street.

1776

Request from the Philadelphia Council of Safety to the Lancaster County Committee of Safety, issued 14 November 1776; copies to be delivered to the commanders of the eleven army battalions in Lancaster County, urging their advance to Philadelphia to aid its defense against the British troops advancing from New York City.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 15021. Reproduced by permission of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.



WAR-OFFICE, *Boston, February 3, 1777.*

To the Selectmen of *Westborough*

AS the Articles herein enumerated, are absolutely necessary for the ensuing Campaign, and nothing is wanting to repel our determined, unrelenting and unprovoked enemies, but preparation and resolution to meet them.—It is most earnestly desired by the Board of War, in behalf of this state, that you would exert yourselves, and appoint some proper persons to procure the following articles, for which the legal (and where no price is stipulated) a reasonable price will be given, the expence of collecting and transporting paid, and the smallest quantity will be acceptable.—It is requested the articles may be delivered at *Wartertown*, to the order of the Commissary-General, who will pay for the same upon delivery.—It is also requested that you immediately make return to this office, of the quantity of each article you have a prospect of procuring, between this and the tenth day of *April* next.

*By order of the Board,*

SAMUEL P. SAVAGE, President.

Tow Cloth yard wide at  $2\frac{2}{3}$   
and so in proportion for wider  
or narrower.

Coarse thread Hose.

Yarn Stockings.

Shoes.

Beans.

Pease.

Twine.

Bar-Iron.

Fire-Arms.

Old Brass  $\frac{1}{4}$  per lb.

Old Copper  $\frac{1}{8}$

Soldiers Blankets.

Linen and Woolen large  
shirts.

Felt Hats.

Striped, check'd and white  
Flannel.

Linen Rags.

Lint.

1777

Call for food and provisions, addressed to town officials [written in hand, "Westborough"], issued by the Massachusetts Board of War, Boston, 3 February 1777.

*Return:* report. *Tow Cloth:* coarse inexpensive fabric used for sacks, work clothes, and other utilitarian purposes.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 43298. Reproduced by permission of the American Antiquarian Society,

BY THE HONORABLE  
Major-General PUTNAM,  
*Commander of the Forces of the*  
*United American States,*  
*At and near the WHITE-PLAINS.*  
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS some Soldiers of the Continental Army, induced by artful and insidious Persons, have been led to desert their Country's Service, and have aided the Enemy in their wicked Purposes to subdue the Country ; some of whom are deterred from returning to their Duty through Fear of Punishment : And whereas many of the peaceable Inhabitants of these States have, by artful and designing Persons, been induced to leave their Habitations and take Arms against their Countrymen ; who, conscious of their Errors, are desirous of returning to their Habitations, but are deterred through Fear of Punishment.

I DO THEREFORE DECLARE, That all Deserters from the Army of the United States, who will return to their Duty by the First Day of *January* next, shall have a free Pardon : And those Inhabitants who have been induced to enter the Enemy's Service, shall, on returning to their Habitations, receive Protection, and Exemption from personal Punishment for the aforesaid Offences.

*Given under my Hand at Head-Quarters, this 17<sup>th</sup> of November, Anno Domini, 1777.*

ISRAEL PUTNAM.

1777

Offer of amnesty for deserters who return to duty by January 1, 1778,  
issued by Major General Israel Putnam, Continental Army, White Plains, New York, 17 November 1777.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 43380. Reproduced by permission of the American Antiquarian Society [sepia tone added].



By His EXCELLENCY  
GEORGE WASHINGTON, ESQUIRE,  
GENERAL and COMMANDER in CHIEF of the FORCES  
of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

BY Virtue of the Power and Direction to Me especially given, I hereby enjoin and require all Persons residing within seventy Miles of my Head Quarters to thresh one Half of their Grain by the 1st Day of February, and the other Half by the 1st Day of March next ensuing, on Pain, in Case of Failure, of having all that shall remain in Sheaves after the Period above mentioned, seized by the Commissaries and Quarter-Masters of the Army, and paid for as Straw.

GIVEN *under my Hand, at Head Quarters, near the Valley Forge, in Philadelphia County, this 20th Day of December, 1777.*

G. WASHINGTON.

By His Excellency's Command,  
ROBERT H. HARRISON, Sec'y.

LANCASTER; PRINTED BY JOHN DUNLAP.

1777

Announcement to farmers within seventy miles of Valley Forge (winter quarters of the Continental Army) that any unthreshed grain left in their fields after March 1, 1778, will be taken by the Continental Army, payment to be made at the lower price of straw; issued by General George Washington, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, 20 December 1777.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 15634. Reproduced by permission of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.



TEUCRO DUCE NIL DESPERANDUM.

First Battalion of Pennsylvania Loyalists, commanded by  
His Excellency Sir WILLIAM HOWE, K. B.

**A**LL intrepid, able-bodied HEROES, who are willing to serve His Majesty King GEORGE the Third, in Defence of their Country, Laws, and Constitution, against the arbitrary Usurpations of a tyrannical Congress, have now not only an Opportunity of manifesting their Spirit, by assisting in reducing their too-long deluded Countrymen, but also of acquiring the polite Accomplishments of a Soldier, by serving only two Years, or during the present Rebellion in America.

Such spirited Fellows, who are willing to engage, will be rewarded at the End of the War, besides their Laurels, with Fifty Acres of Land in any County they shall chuse, where every gallant Hero may retire, and enjoy his Bottle and Lafs. *[every non Comd officer was to receive 200 Acres of Land]*

Each Volunteer will receive, as a Bounty, FIVE DOLLARS, besides Arms, Cloathing and Accoutrements, and every other Requisite proper to accommodate a Gentleman Soldier, by applying to Lieutenant-Colonel ALLEN, or at Captain STEVENS's Rendezvous, in Front-street.

PRINTED by JAMES HUMPHREYS, JUNR. in Market-street, between Front and Second-streets.

**—1777—**

Recruitment broadside to create a battalion of Pennsylvania Loyalists, issued by the British army during the occupation of Philadelphia, 1777. (Due to low response, the battalion was not formed.)

Latin header, "Teucro duce nil desperandum": "Never despair with Teucer as leader" [Horace: Book I, Ode 7].

Handwritten note: "every non Com<sup>d</sup> [noncommissioned] officer was to receive 200 acres of land."

Early American Imprints, Series I [LCP Supplement], Doc. 50427. Reproduced by permission of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.



# IN CONGRESS,

A P R I L 23, 1778.

**W**HEREAS Persuasion and Influence, the Example of the Deluded or Wicked, the Fear of Danger, or the Calamities of War, may have induced some of the Subjects of these States to join, aid or abet the *British* Forces in *America*, and who, tho' now desirous of returning to their Duty, and anxiously wishing to be received and reunited to their Country, may be deterred by the Fear of Punishment: And whereas the People of these States are ever more ready to reclaim than to abandon, to mitigate than to increase the Horrors of War, to pardon than to punish Offenders:

**RESOLVED**, That it be recommended to the Legislatures of the several States to pass Laws, or to the Executive Authority of each State, if invested with sufficient Power, to issue Proclamations, offering Pardon, with such Exceptions, and under such Limitations and Restrictions as they shall think expedient, to such of their Inhabitants or Subjects, as have levied War against any of these States, or adhered to, aided or abetted the Enemy, and shall surrender themselves to any Civil or Military Officer of any of these States, and shall return to the State to which they may belong before the 10th Day of *June* next. And it is recommended to the good and faithful Citizens of these States to receive such returning Penitents with Compassion and Mercy, and to forgive and bury in Oblivion their past Failings and Transgressions.

*Extract from the Minutes,*

Charles Thomson, *Secretary.*

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YORK-TOWN: PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS.

1778

Resolution calling on states to grant amnesty to Loyalists who turn themselves in by June 10, 1779; issued to the states by the Continental Congress, York Town, Pennsylvania, 23 April 1778.

Early American Imprints, Series I, Doc. 16119. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, Broadside Collection, Call No.: Cont Cong no. 44a.