

PASS vol. XI (p. 631): This is the January 1st, 1783 entry from the diary of Capt. Joseph McClellan of the 9th Pennsylvania regiment. It describes the beginning of the revolt. Also, the editors included further research volumes. The January 2nd entry is also shown in the document image.



DIARY OF THE REVOLT.



JANUARY 1, 1781. A fine morning. The General and field officers of the Line met to settle the arrangement. The day spent in quietness. About 8 o'clock in the night a number of men in the 11th Regiment began to huzza and continued some time, but it was generally thought it only proceeded from the men drinking, as they had drawn half a pint of liquor this day. A number of the officers collected in order to quiet the men, which was done in a great measure. But in a short time a disturbance began on the right of the division, by the men parading with their arms, and firing some scattering shots, which soon became general through the division, notwithstanding every endeavor used by the officers. The men at length seized upon the artillery and began to drag them off on the road. During this time Captain Bitting was shot through the body and soon died. Captain Tolbert was badly wounded. Several shots were fired from the artillery as they kept them moving, the men in general by this time being in arms, huzzaing and firing their pieces in the air. The 9th & 5th regiments were kept in their parades until they were threatened by others, if they did not move off they would turn the artillery on them, several shots being fired over their heads. At length the greater part of them mixed in with the other regiments, and kept the road by Gen. Wayne's quarters. A number returned that night, collected more men, and, indeed, forced near one half the Line away. Their first half was at Vealtown, four miles from camp, and they continued there until they collected most of the Line.

[The wants and sufferings of the Pennsylvania Line are fully set forth in letters, *ante*, *Pa. Arch.*, vol. viii, pages 587, 593; *Reed's Life of Pres. Reed*, vol. ii, page 317, *Wayne to Reed*, &c.]

Jany. 2. The men continued going off in small parties, headed by a sergeant, and drove off near 100 head of cattle. The men continued their march towards Princeton. The General, Cols. Butler and Stewart continued with them; the remainder of the officers in camp.