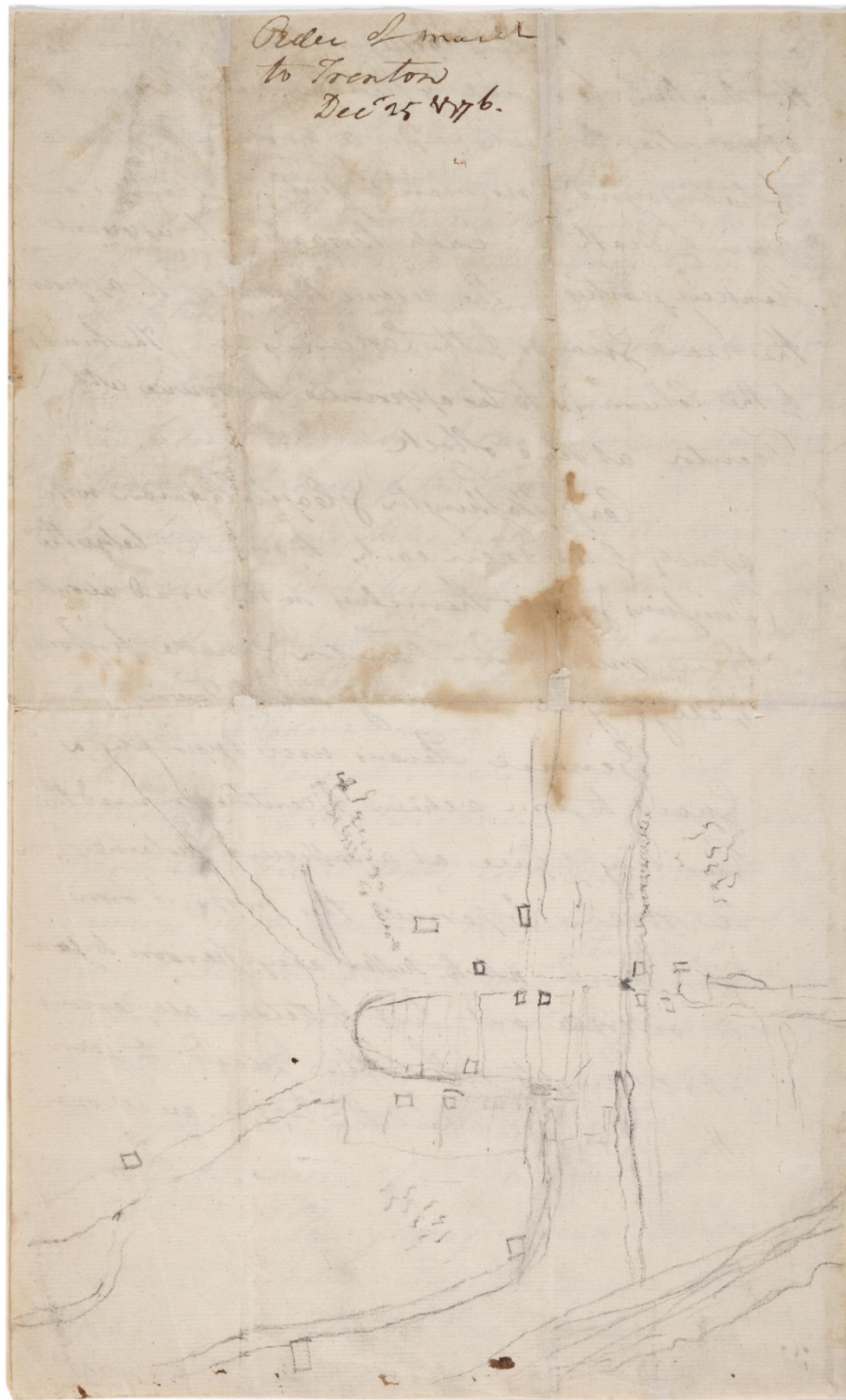


Henry Knox's Orders of March to Trenton, 1776

Image



Henry Knox, Orders of March to Trenton, 1776.
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC02437.00495)

Henry Knox's Orders of March to Trenton, 1776

KNOX
Each Brigade to be furnished with two good Guides. ^{Order of March to Trenton}
Dec 25 1776 ✓ 224 III-93
General Stevens Brigade to form the advanced party & to have with them a detachment of the Artillery without Cannon provided with spikes and hammers to spike up the enemies Cannon in case of necessity or to bring them off if it can be effected. This party to be provided with drag ropes for the purpose of dragging off the Cannon. General Stevens is to attack and force the enemies Guards and seize such posts as may prevent them from forming in the streets and in case they are annoyed from the houses to set them on fire. The Brigade of Mercer & Lord Stirling under the Command of Major General Greene to support General Stevens, this is the second division or left wing of the Army and to march by the way of the Pennington Road.
St. Clair's Glousters & Sargents Brigades ~~to march by the river road~~ under Major General Sullivan to march by the river road. This is the first division of the Army and to form the right wing. Lord Stirlings Brigade to form the reserve of the left wing and General St. Clair's Brigade the reserve

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of the right wing. These reserves to form
a second line in conjunction or a second line to
each division as circumstances may require
— Each Brigadier to make the Colonels acquainted
with the posts of their respective Regiments in the Brigade
and the Major Generals will inform them of the
posts of their Brigades in the same.
Four pieces of artillery to march at the
head of each column, three pieces at the head of
the second Brigade of each Division and two
pieces with each of the Reserves. The troops to
be assembled one mile back of M. Honeys Ferry
and as soon as it begins to grow dark the troops
to be March'd to M. Honeys Ferry and embark
onboard the boats in following order under the
direction of Colonel Knap
General Stevens Brigade with the
detachment of Artillery men to embark first
General Merces next; Lord Stirlings next, Genl
Lemoys next who will march in the rear of the
second Division and file off from the ^{Pennington to the} Princeton Road
in such direction that he can with the greatest ease &
safety secure the passes between Princeton & Trenton
the Guides will be the best judges of this. he is
to take two pieces of artillery with him
Alain Ghoer & Argents Brigades to
embark in order. Immediately upon their de-
parture the whole to form & march in ^{subdivisions}
from the right The

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Commanding Officers of Regiments to observe that
the Divisions be equal & that proper Officers be
appointed to each — a profound Silence
to be enjoined & no man to quit his Ranker until
pain of Death — each Brigade to appoint
flanking parties — the reserve Brigades to appoint
the rear Guards of the Columns — The heads
of the Columns to be appointed to arrive at
Trenton at five o'clock

Capt^s Washington & Capt^s Parker with
a party of 40 men each to march before the
Divisions & protect themselves on the road about
three miles from Trenton & make prisoners
of all going in or coming out of Town

General Stevens will appoint a
Guard to form a chain of sentries round the
Landing place at a sufficient distance from
the river to permit the troops to form

This Guard not to suffer any person to pass
in or come out but to detain all persons
who attempt to either this Guard to join
their Brigade when the troops are all over

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Henry Knox's Orders of March to Trenton, 1776

Transcript

Each Brigade to be furnish'd with two good Guides.

General Stevenss Brigade to form the advanced party & to have with them a detachment of the Artillery without Cannon provided with spikes and Hammers to spike up the enemies Cannon in case of necessity or to bring them off if it can be effected. the party to be provided with drag ropes for the purpose of dragging off the Cannon. General Stevens is to attack and force the enemies guards and seize such posts as may pressure them from forming in the streets and in case they are annoy'd from the houses to set them on fire. The Brigades of Mercer & Lord Stirling under the Command of Major General Greene to support General Stevens, this is the second division or left wing of the Army and to march by the way of the Pennington Road.

S^t Clairs Glovers & Sargents Brigades [*struck*: to embark in order] under Major General Sullivan to march by the river road, this is the first division of the Army and to form the right wing. Lord Stirlings Brigade to form the reserve of the left wing and General S^t Clairs Brigade the reserve [2] of the right wing. These reserves to form a second line in Conjunction or a second hand to each division as circumstances may require – Each Brigadier to make the Colonels acquainted with the posts of their respective Regiments in the Brigade and the Major Generals will inform them of the parts of their Brigades in the Line.

Four peices of artillery to march at the head of each Column, three peices at the head of the second Brigade of each Division and two peices with each of the Reserves. The troops to be assembled one Miles back of M^cKonkeys ferry and as soon as it begins to grow dark the troops to be March'd to M^cKonkeys ferry and embark onboard the boats in following order under the direction of Colonel Knox

General Stevens Brigade with the detachment of Artillery men to embark first General Mercers next; Lord Stirlings next, Gen^l Fermoy's next who will march in the rear of the second Division and file off from the [*inserted*: Pennington to the] Princeton Road in such direction that he can with the greatest ease & safety secure the passes between Princeton & Trenton the Guides will be the best judges of this. he is to take two peices of artillery with him

S^t Clair Glover & Sargents Brigades to embark in order. Immediately upon their debarkation the whole to form & march in Subdivisions from the Right

Henry Knox's Orders of March to Trenton, 1776

The [3] Commanding officers of Regiments to observe that the Divisions be equal & that proper officers be appointed to each – a profound silence to be enjoynd & no man to quit his Ranks on the pain of Death – each Brigadier to appoint flanking parties – the reserve Brigades to appoint the rear Guards of the Columns – The heads of the Columns to be appointed to arrive at Trenton at five oClock

Cap^t Washington & Cap^t [Flaharan] with a party of 40 men each to march before the Divisions & posts themselves on the road about three miles from Trenton & make prisoner of all going in or coming out of Town

General Stevens will appoint a Guard to form a chain of centries round the landing place at a sufficient distance from the river to permit the troops to form This Guard not to suffer any person to gone in or [*struck*: come] [*inserted*: go] out but to detain all persons who attempts either this Guard to join their Brigade when the troops are all over

[*docket*]

Order of march
to Trenton

Dec^r 25 1776.