ARRANGEMENT OF VIRGINIA CONTINENTAL FIELD OFFICERS, WINTER 1777-1778
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[The first document is a draft arrangement for filling vacancies resulting from resignations and deaths of Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels. It is dated 15 Oct 1777 and probably drafted at Valley Forge. See endnotes for complete names. Transcribed from http://www.fold3.com/image/#9947091.]

At a meeting of the General & Field Officers of the Virg’a. line agreeable to the request of his Excellency [Gen. Washington] we have setled the rank of the Field Officers by virtue of Deaths & resignations in the following manner, Viz

By the resignation of Colo. Elliot 25th Sept
Lt. Colo. W. Neilson to the rank of Lt. Colo. of the [?]th
Maj’r. G. Lyne to that of Lt. Colo. [ink blot] Nelson
Capt. Geo. Slaughter to that of Major

By the Death of Colo. Seayres. 4th Octo’r. 1777
Maj’r. Geo. Nicholas to the rank of Lt. Colo.
Capt. S Hawes to that of Major.
By the resignation of Colo. Spotswood 9th Octb’r Lt. Colo. Febiger to the rank of Colo. Maj’r. Richeson to that of Lt. Colo & Capt. [blank] to that of Major
We find it impracticable to proceed farther for want of the regimental returns
October 15th 1777 Peter Muhlenberg BG.

[The following arrangement is not dated, but it was probably compiled soon after the above draft. Transcribed from http://www.fold3.com/image/#9947081.]

Arrangement of the Officers in the Virginia Line
Colo. Elliotts resignation promoted
Lt Colo. Fibecker Maj’r Lyne & Capt Slaughter
Lt. Colo. Joynes Death
Maj’r. Ballard or Richeson Capt’n. Hawes
Colo. Spotswood’s Resignation
Lt. Colo. Gibson. Maj’r Ballard or Richeson Capt’n. Brent
Lt. Colo. Nelsons
Maj’r. Alexander & Capt’n. Wallace
Lt Colo. Markham’s disgrace
Maj’r. Cropper & Capt’n. Dickinson
Lt. Colo. Lynes resignation  Maj’r. Dark & Capt’n. Gaskins
Lt. Colo. Willis resignation  Maj’r. West & Capt’n. Hopkins

If the Vacancies to which those gentlemen, who are taken Prisoners are entitled, are not to be fill’d up by them, Then Major West comes into the Vacancy to which Major Dark was entitled – Maj’r Joynes is the next in Succession to major West, but as he is a prisoner Major Ball is the next. & entitled to Colo. Willis’s Vacancy. P. Muhlenberg BG.

NOTES:
Col. John Sayres was killed at the Battle of Germantown.
Maj. George Nicholas was promoted to Lt. Col. 15 Oct 1777.
The events noted in the arrangement are as follows:
Colo. Thomas Elliott resigned from the 4th Reg. 28 Sep 1777
  Christian Febiger  from Lt. Col. 11th Reg.  to Col. 2nd Reg.  26 Sep 1777
  George Lyne  from Maj. 13th Reg.  to Lt. Col. 9th Reg.  28 Sep 1777
  George Slaughter  from Capt. 8th Reg.  to Maj. 12th Reg.  9 Oct 1777
Lt. Col. Levin Joynes did not die: wounded and captured at the Battle of Germantown, 4 Oct 1777
  Robert Ballard  from Maj. 1st Reg.  to Lt. Col. 4th Reg.  14 Sep 1777
  Holt Richeson  from Maj. 15th Reg.  to Lt. Col. 7th Reg.  9 Oct 1777
  Samuel Hawes  from Capt. 2nd Reg.  to Maj. 10th Reg.  4 Oct 1777
Col. Alexander Spotswood resigned from the 2nd Reg. 9 Oct 1777
  John Gibson  from Lt. Col. 13th Reg.  to Col. 6th Reg.  27 Oct 1777
  Robert Ballard or Holt Richeson (see above)
  John Brent  from Capt. 4th Reg.  to Maj. 4th Reg.  4 Oct 1777
Lt. Col. William Nelson promoted from 7th Reg. to Col. 8th Reg. 15 Oct 1777
  Morgan Alexander  resigned as Maj. 8th Reg.  1 Dec 1777
  Gustavus Brown Wallace  from Capt. 3rd Reg.  to Maj. 15th Reg.  4 Oct 1777
Lt. Col. John Markham of 8th Reg. cashiered 26 Oct 1777
  John Cropper  from Maj. 7th Reg.  to Lt. Col. 11th Reg.  27 Oct 1777
  Edmund B. Dickinson  from Capt. 1st Reg.  to Maj. 1st Reg.  26 Oct 1777
Lt. Col. George Lyne (see above) resigned from 9th Reg. 14 Nov 1777
  Maj. William Darke of 8th Reg. wounded and captured at Germantown 4 Oct 1777; exchanged 1 Nov 1780; promoted to Lt. Col. while a prisoner 29 Nov 1777
  Thomas Gaskins  from Capt. 5th Reg.  to Maj. 5th Reg.  5 Nov 1777
Lt. Col. Lewis Willis resigned from 10th Reg. 1 Mar 1778
  Maj. Charles West (resigned from 3rd Reg. 6 Jul 1778)
  Samuel Hopkins  from Capt. 6th Reg.  to Maj. 6th Reg.  29 Nov 1777