

For almost two weeks all was quiet. Then on June 18 lookouts, whom Washington had posted along 50 miles of the Jersey coast, brought word that the British fleet was moving up the Hudson. Immediately the American troops set out to defend the vital Hudson River forts. Clinton was irked: he had expected to overpower the weak West Point garrison easily. To divert Washington's army the British commander ordered his redcoats to march on Springfield on June 23. The Americans under Greene, who had been left to guard the Watchung passes, were driven back, the village was burned, but the British troops ventured no farther. Back to Elizabethtown and across their pontoon bridge to Staten Island they went, the last large British force to appear in New Jersey.

Washington, having readily discerned Clinton's strategy, hovered about the northern boundary of the State through the summer and fall, prepared to leap toward Morristown or the river forts. In July he made his headquarters in Lower Preakness at Colonel Dey's home, now a Revolutionary museum. Toward the end of August he was at Englewood, and in September he spent several days at Hackensack and at the Hopper house in Hohokus, a few miles from the State line. Though the army remained idle, Washington himself was on the constant move until early October when he returned to Colonel Dey's colonial mansion. Here he made plans for an attack on New York City, but again the intervention of the British fleet forced him to abandon the assault. Annoyed by the blocking of his scheme and terribly weary of the general stagnation, he moved down to Morristown for a few days and then, on December 6, left for winter quarters in the neighborhood of West Point.

Behind him he left the Pennsylvania troops at Morristown and the New Jersey troops at Pompton and Chatham. Dissatisfaction in the ranks, which had resulted in the mutiny of the Connecticut militia at Morristown the previous winter, now became widespread. On January 1, 1781, disgusted with the conditions of their enlistment, their pay, their lack of clothing and liquor, the Pennsylvania Line mutinied. They killed and wounded several officers and marched to Princeton where they were met by a committee of Congress. Upon promise that their demands would be satisfied, the soldiers returned to duty. On January 20th, without violence, the New Jersey Line at Pompton marched to Chatham to make similar demands. They, too, were promised a pardon and a hearing for their grievances, but after their return to Pompton that promise was broken. Washington, fearful that leniency would encourage further revolt, dispatched a contingent of New England troops from his headquarters at New Windsor, New York, to restore order in New Jersey. Three leaders of the Pompton mutiny were given a brief trial outside their huts, and two of them were executed upon order by their own companions. The third was pardoned at the last moment. There had never been a question of any of the mutineers' going over to the enemy.

Washington did not see New Jersey from December 1780 until August 1781 when he passed through Chatham, New Brunswick and Trenton on his way south to cooperate with the French land and sea forces in the victory at Yorktown.

The final battle of the Revolution had been fought, but until the peace treaty was signed, the commander kept his troops under arms at Newburgh, New York. Twice he passed through New Jersey on his way between headquarters and the meetings of Congress in Philadelphia. In March 1782 he inspected the ar-



Martha Washington



Sir Henry Clinton