



42nd Regt. Grenadier, *Grenadier Book*, Aldershot Depot, photographed 2012, by Stephen Davies

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Kilts & Courage

Volume III

The Documentary History of the 42nd or Royal Highland Regiment in the American War for Independence, 1776 - 1783

by Paul L. Pace

Introduction to Volume III, Rev. 1

In his 1822 book, *Sketches or the Character, Manners, and Present State of the Highlanders of Scotland; with Details of the Military Service of the Highland Regiments*¹, Col. David Stewart explained the difficulties in preparing his 1822 history of the Highland regiments due to the loss of the 42nd Regt. records. Stewart explained that “*When the Forty-second regiment was removed from Dublin to Donaghadee* ² *in the year 1771, the baggage was sent round by sea. The vessel having it on board was unfortunately driven on shore by a gale of wind, and wrecked; the greater part of the cargo and baggage was lost, and the portion saved, especially the regimental books and records, was much injured. A misfortune somewhat similar occurred, when the army, under the Earl of Moira, landed at Ostend* ³ *in June 1794. The transports were ordered round to Helvoetsluys* ⁴ *, with orders to wait the further movements of the troops. But the vessels had not been long there, when the enemy invaded Holland in great force, and, entering Helvoetsluys, seized on the transports in the harbour. Among the number of vessels taken were those which had conveyed the Forty-second to Flanders, having on board every article of regimental baggage, except the knapsacks with which the Officers and soldiers had landed at Ostend in light marching order. Along with the baggage, a well-selected library, and, what was more to be regretted, all that remained of the historical records of the regiment, from the period of its formation till the year 1793, fell into the hands of the enemy.*”

The purpose of this Volume is to replace, reconstruct and reassemble the records of the 42nd Highlanders during the period of the American War for Independence.

The identifiable period correspondence of the regiment from the war is included in this volume. This includes correspondence with government offices, regimental reviews, available order books, regimental agent records, court-martials etc. Also included to complete the portions of the story where official documents are lacking are letters from the officers of the regiment and newspaper and magazine accounts of the activities of the highlanders in America. Appendices A through G provided these records.

The identification of the individual soldiers of the regiment is also an important part of the history of the regiment. Connecting names and family histories with as many of the soldiers as possible provides a human face to the heroic struggles of the regiment during the long war in America. Fortunately much information is available on the officers of the regiment as provided in Vol. II. Conversely, except for a small number of pension listings, little documentation remains on the individual enlisted soldiers of the regiment beyond their names, ranks and occasion discharge information. Accordingly the semi-annual muster reports and the pension records are provided.

There are also several side stories that warrant specific inclusion in any history of the regiment during the time period. One company of the recruits of the regiment was sent to Newfoundland, Canada in 1778 to reinforce that garrison against possible French attack. The documents telling that story are provided in Appendix H.

In 1778 a number of Highland recruits from the 42nd and 71st Regiments mutinied when drafted to be transferred without their consent to fill up the 83rd (or Royal Glasgow Volunteers) Regt. at Leith, near Edinburgh. Their story is provided in Appendix I.

From the beginning of the War in America, Gen. Lord John Murray, Colonel of the 42nd Regt., offered to raise a 2nd Battalion to the regiment to assist in the war effort. Following its approval

in the fall of 1779, recruiting began to complete the new battalion. Although this battalion did not serve in the American war, its establishment drew several officers from the battalion in America and it occupied the attention of the regiment's colonel and other officers during this period. Accordingly several documents associated with the raising of the regiment are included in this volume in App. J. The raising of this battalion causes some confusion in the documents because of the use of the same title as the provisional "2nd Battalion" formed by splitting the original regiment in America in Aug. 1776 into two battalions under Maj. William Murray and Brevet-Maj. William Grant.

Lastly, the unique uniform of the 42nd Regt has always been of great interest to students of the Highlanders and accordingly Appendix K of this Volume provides the documents describing all aspects of the uniform including those of the Light Infantry and Grenadier Companies which spent much of the war separated from the main battalion in America.

Table 1: *Calendar of the 42nd or Royal Highland Regiment in the American War for Independence, 1776-1783* is provided below in order to put the documents of this volume into context and to provide a ready reference to what was happening in the regiment at the time of an enclosed document. The Calendar provides a chronological listing of the major military events and personnel changes which occurred during the American war:

Notes to Introduction:

- 1 *Sketches or the Character, Manners, and Present State of the Highlanders of Scotland; with Details of the Military Service of the Highland Regiments*, Vol. I, 2nd Ed., Col. David Stewart, Printed for Archibald Constable, Edinburgh, 1822, Google Books, pp. vi –vii.
2. Donaghadee is a port city on the east coast of Ireland.
3. Ostend, Belgium.
4. Hellevoetsluis, The Netherlands.

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Table 1

Calendar of the 42nd or Royal Highland Regiment in the American War for Independence, 1776-1783

In order to put the documents of this volume into context and to provide a ready reference to what was happening in the regiment at the time of an enclosed document, the following Calendar provides a chronological listing of the major military events and personnel changes which occurred during the American war:

Date	Event
May 12, 1725	King George I issues orders for raising six Highland Independent Companies to police the Highland.
Oct. 25, 1739	Letter of Service issued to John Earl of Crawford and Lindsay to raise the 43 ^d or Highland Regt. of Foot from the six Highland Independent Companies.
Apr. 25, 1745	Lt. Col. Lord John Murray, 3 rd Regt. of Foot-Guards, commissioned as Col. of the 43 rd or Highland Regt.
Nov. 1748	<i>Gen. Oglethorpe's 42nd Regt.</i> at Fort Frederica, Georgia is ordered to disband and the 43 rd or Highland Regt. becomes the 42 nd or Highland Regt.
Apr. 15, 1756	Oglethorpe's Regt. actually disbanded in Georgia on Aug. 24, 1749. First division of five companies the 42 nd Regt. under Lt. Col. Francis Grant sail for America for the French & Indian War.
June 8, 1756	Second division of five companies the 42 nd Regt. under Maj. Duncan Campbell embark for America for the French & Indian War.
July 8, 1758	42 nd Regt. gains notoriety for heroism in unsuccessful Battle of Ticonderoga, New York
July 22, 1758	King George II changes name of 42 nd Regt. to " <i>Our Forty-Second, or Royal Highland Regiment of Foot</i> " and authorizes raising of 2 nd Battalion.
Oct. 25, 1760	George III becomes King of England.
July 25, 1767	42 nd Regt. departs America for Ireland after service in the French and Indian War.
Sept. 7, 1771	Maj. Thomas Stirling, Younger of Ardoch, becomes Lt. Colonel of the 42 nd Regt.
Sept. 26, 1770 – May 1773	Four (later three) companies of the 42 nd Regt. detached to garrison the Isle of Man, in the Irish Sea. The initial four companies were Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling's, Brevet-Maj. William Grant's, Capt. Alexander Donaldson's and Capt. Archibald Erskine's.
Sept. 18, 1771	42 nd Regt. augmented to add Lt. Infantry Co.
Apr. 19, 1775	Battles of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts begin the American War for Independence.
June 29, 1775	Gen. Lord John Murray notified of augmentation of 42 nd Regt. so each of 10 companies has 5 sergeants, 5 corporals, 2 drummers and 100 private men plus two pipers for the grenadier co.
July 24, 1775	42 nd Regt. leaves Ireland for Glasgow, Scotland to recruit to new higher establishment.
Aug. 23, 1775	King George III issues <i>Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition in the American Colonies.</i>
Aug. 29, 1775	42 nd Regt. augmented to add two Additional Companies for recruiting.
Mar. 29, 1776	42 nd Regt. reviewed by Lt. Gen. Sir James Adolphus Oughton at Glasgow.
Apr. 29, 1776	42 nd Regt. sets sail with 71 st Highland Regt. for America under convoy of <i>HMS Flora</i>
May 4, 1776	Fleet of <i>HMS Flora</i> is disbursed in severe storm. Individual and groups of transports make their way to America without escort.
May 29, 1776	Transport <i>Oxford</i> with Capt. John Smith's Co. captured by Rebel Brig <i>Andrew Doria</i> , officers taken to New York and Newport as prisoners.

June 15-20, 1776	Highlanders and former crew seize <i>Oxford</i> from prize crew, sail to Virginia but are re-captured by Virginia navy.
June 7, 1776	First transport (<i>Bowman</i>) with Capt. Archibald Erskine's company arrives at Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 10, 1776	Gen. Sir William Howe sails from Halifax with fleet and Army for New York. Three of eleven 42 nd Regt. transports sail with Gen. Howe. Three more 42 nd Regt. transports join the fleet before it arrives at New York.
July 4, 1776	American Continental Congress declares independence.
Aug. 5, 1776	Last companies arrive Staten Island
Aug. 6, 1776	42 nd Regt. under Lt. Col. Thomas Stirling split into two provisional battalions under Maj. William Murray and Brevet-Maj. William Grant. 42 nd Grenadier Co. under Capt. Charles Graham assigned to composite 4 th British Grenadier Bn. and 42 nd Light Infantry Co. under Capt. the Hon. George Mackenzie assigned to 1 st Light Infantry Bn.
Aug. 22, 1776	42 nd Regt. lands on Long Island in first wave as part of Reserve. One Bn. takes post at Flatbush and skirmishes with American troops.
Aug. 26-27, 1776	42 nd Regt. consolidated and assigned to support Maj. Gen. Grant's attack on left flank attack on Rebel lines in Battle of Brooklyn.
Sept. 15, 1776	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. and Gren. Co. part of first wave at Kip's Bay landing on Manhattan Island. 42 nd Regt. on transports in second wave.
Sept. 16, 1776	One Bn. of 42 nd Regt. heavily engaged in the Battle of Harlem Heights
Oct. 8, 1778	4 th British Gren. Bn. disbanded due to illness of the two 71 st Gren. Cos. 42 nd Gren. Co. assigned to 3 rd British Gren. Bn.
Oct. 12, 1776	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. and Gren. Co. part of first wave at landing on Throg's Neck on the New York mainland. . 42 nd Regt. on sloops in second wave.
Oct. 18, 1776	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. and Gren. Co. part of first wave at landing at Pell's Point on the New York mainland after being stopped at Throg's Neck. 42 nd Regt. in second wave.
Oct. 28, 1776	42 nd Regt. companies held in reserve and do not participate in Battle of White Plains
Nov. 16, 1776	42 nd Regt. conducts heroic attack across Harlem River behind the rebel lines at Battle of Fort Washington opening way for main British attack under Gen. Percy to proceed.
Nov. 20-Dec.8, 1776	42 nd Regt. takes part in capture of Fort Lee, N.J. and pursuit of American army to Trenton, N.J.
Nov. 18, 1776	42 nd Gren. Co. in 3 rd Gren. Bn. assigned to expedition under Lt. Gen. Henry Clinton.
Dec. 8, 1776	42 nd Gren. Co. takes part in capture of Rhode Island
Dec. 9, 1776	42 nd Regt. moves to Pennington, N.J. with Lord Cornwallis
Dec. 13, 1776	42 nd Regt. assigned to Col. Donop's Hessian Brigade, and posted at Black Horse, New Jersey
Dec. 22, 1776	400 to 500 rebel troops attack small picket of 42 nd Regt. at Petticoat Bridge near Blackhorse, N.J.
Dec. 23, 1776	Col. Donop with the 42 nd Regt. and Hessian grenadiers attack and pursue American force at Mt. Holly, N.J.
Dec. 26, 1776	Following American attack on Trenton, N.J. 42 nd Regt. withdraws to Princeton with Col. Donop.
Jan. 2-3, 1777	42 nd Regt. takes part in Lord Cornwallis attack to Trenton, N.J. and Battle of Assunpink Creek. Next day marches to Princeton and Brunswick.
Jan. 4, 1777	42 nd Regt. goes into winter quarters in Piscataway, N.J. and the 42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. at Brunswick. 42 nd Gren Co. remains at Rhode Island.
Feb. 1, 1777	200 men of 42 nd Regt. under Brevet-Maj. Duncan M ^c Pherson in skirmish at Drake's Farm near Metuchen, N.J. with Sir William Erskine.
Feb. 7, 12 and Mar. 1, 1777	Rebel troops attack 42 nd Regt. pickets at Piscataway, N.J.

Feb. 13, 1777	42 nd Gren. Co. as part of 3 rd British Gren. Bn. departs Rhode Island and sails to Amboy, N.J.
Feb. 21, 1777	42 nd Gren. Co. heavily engaged during foraging expedition near Woodbridge, N. J.
Mar. 23, 1777	42 nd Gren. Co. joins 2 nd British Gren. Bn. at Amboy, N.J. when 3 rd Bn. disbanded.
Apr. 13, 1777	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. at battle of Bound Brook, N.J. with 1 st Lt. Inf. Bn.
May 10, 1777	42 nd Regt. repulses attack by 2000 Rebels at Piscataway, N.J.
June 8, 1777	42 nd Regt. assembles with Gen. Howe's army at Brunswick, N.J. to attempt engagement of American army.
June 26, 1777	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. as part of 1 st Lt. Inf. Bn. engages American troops near Scotch Plains, N.J.
June 30, 1777	With Gen. Howe unsuccessful in drawing the American army into an engagement, the 42 nd Regt. withdraws with army from N.J. to Staten Island
July 6, 1777	Two Lts. and 170 men from the 42 nd Additional Companies join regiment at New York.
July 22, 1777	42 nd Regt. sails with army to the Chesapeake for Philadelphia Campaign.
Aug. 25, 1777	42 nd Regt. lands at Head of Elk, Md. as part of Maj. Gen. Charles Grey's 3 rd Brigade.
Sept. 1, 1777	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. attempts to flank American troops at Cooch's bridge over Christiana Creek, Del., but stopped by swamp.
Sept. 11, 1777	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. leads Lord Cornwallis' column in attack at Brandywine Creek. 42 nd Gren. Co also engaged. 42 nd Regt. is commander-in-chief's guard and not engaged.
Sept. 20, 1777	42 nd Regt. in third wave of Maj. Gen. Grey's attack on Rebel Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne near Paoli Tavern, Pa.
Sept. 26, 1777	42 nd Gren. Co. enters Philadelphia, Pa. with 2 nd Gren. Bn. as part of Lt. Gen. Lord Cornwallis's column.
Sept. 28-Oct.6, 1777	Lt. Col. Stirling leads expedition with the 42 nd and 10 th Regts. to capture Fort Billingsport to clear Delaware River for shipping then rejoins Gen. Howe at Germantown.
Oct. 4, 1777	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. heavily engaged in right flank at Battle of Germantown, Pa.
Oct. 5-31, 1777	Maj. William Murray leaves 42 nd Regt. to become Lt. Col. of 27 th Regt. (Murray dies a few days later) and Brevet-Maj. William Grant becomes Major of 42 nd Regt.
Oct. 19, 1777	42 nd Regt. moves from Germantown with army to Philadelphia.
Nov. 17, 1777	42 nd Regt. crosses Delaware River to hold Cooper's ferry during attack on Fort Mercer.
Dec. 5-8, 1777	With the 42 nd Lt. inf. Co. as part of the initial engagements near Beggarstown, the 42 nd Regt. as part of the 3 rd Brigade engaged the American troops on Edgehill in the Battle of Whitemarsh, Pa.
Dec. 30, 1777	British Army enters winter quarters at Philadelphia. 42 nd Regt. assigned to Redoubt No. 7
Feb. 25, 1778	Lt. Col. Stirling with the 42 nd Regt. and Queen's Rangers move to Haddonfield, N.J. as a blocking force to prevent Rebel Maj. Gen. Wayne from seizing cattle.
Mar. 21, 1778	Gen. Sir Henry Clinton ordered to send 3000 troops to West Indies, 2000 to Florida and 600 to Halifax. Loss of troops requires abandonment of Philadelphia.
Apr. 4-July 27, 1778	Additional Company under Lt. John Grant sails from Greenock, Scotland to St. Johns Newfoundland with two companies of the 71 st . The Additional remain there until 1782.
May 11, 1778	General Orders announce Gen. Sir Henry Clinton as new British Commander-in-Chief, replacing Gen. Sir William Howe.
May 19, 1778	Maj. Gen. Grant attempts to attack Marquis de Lafayette at Barren Hill, Pa. 42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. was part of Grant's force.

June 18, 1778	42 nd Regt. departs Philadelphia with army to return to New York
June 28, 1778	42 nd Regt. in Battle of Monmouth with 3 rd Brig. 42 nd Grenadier Co. heavily engaged with 2 nd British Gren. Bn. 42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. part of unsuccessful attempt to flank left of rebel lines.
July 5, 1778	Flank Battalions disbanded and 42 nd Grenadier and Light Inf. Companies ordered to rejoin the 42 nd Regt.
July 6- 7, 1778	42 nd Regt. loads transports at Neversink, N.J. and sails to Long Island, N.Y.
July 14, 1778	42 nd Gren. And Lt. Inf. Cos. assigned as Marines on British Ships, but replaced before sailing by 23 rd Regt.
July 31, 1778	Flank Bns. Reconstituted, 42 nd Grenadier Co. rejoins 2 nd British Gren. Bn. and 42 nd Light Inf. Co. rejoins 1 st Lt. Inf. Bn.
Aug. 10, 1778	42 nd Grenadier Co. ordered to join 1 st British Gren. Bn.
Aug. 26-Sept. 1, 1778	42 nd Regt. and both flank companies embark for relief of Rhode Island. On arrival at Rhode Island learn American siege had been lifted.
Sept. 5-6, 1778	42 nd Regt. lands in Massachusetts at Buzzard's Bay for successful raid on Bedford and Dartmouth under Maj. Gen. Charles Grey.
Sept. 10, 1778	42 nd Regt. sails to Martha's Vineyard under Maj. Gen. Grey to collect cattle and sheep for the army.
Aug. 25-27, 1778	Brevet-Lt. Col. William Grant retires. Capt. Charles Graham becomes Major, Capt. John Peebles assumes command of 42 nd Grenadiers, and Lt. George Dalrymple becomes Capt. taking Capt. Peebles Co.
Sept. 18-19, 1778	42 nd Regt. returns to New York, landing at Bedford, Long Island
Sept. 27, 1778	42 nd Regt. and Gren. Co. are not engaged as part of Lord Cornwallis column as Maj. Gen. Grey attacks Col. Baylor's dragoons at Tappan, N.Y.
Oct. 28, 1778	About 44 soldiers of the 42 nd Regt. who had been held prisoners by the American army returned to the regiment after being exchanged. Most of these men were from Capt. Smith's Co. captured in May – June 1776.
Nov. 2, 1778	Army ordered into Winter Quarters. 42 nd Regt. assigned to Newtown, Long Island and flank companies to Jamaica, Long Island.
Nov. 3, 1778	Flank Bns. consolidated into one Grenadier Bn. and one Lt. Infantry Bn. due to losses of regiments for West Indies and Florida expeditions.
Feb. 25-26, 1779	Lt. Col. Stirling leads 42 nd and 33 rd Regts. and Flank Cos. of Guards for raid on Elizabethtown, N.J.
Apr. 20, 1779	Fourteen recruits of the 42 nd Regt. and 50 from the 71 st Regt. mutiny at Leith, Scotland, refusing to be drafted into the 83 rd Regt.
Apr. 28-May 27, 1779	42 nd Regt. takes part in Adm. Collier's raid on Norfolk, Va.
May 30 – June 2, 1779	42 nd Regt. and flank companies take part in capture of American forts at Stony Point and Verplanck's Point, NY.
July 17-19, 1779	Following Rebel Gen. Wayne's capture of Stony Point on July 16, 42 nd Regt. takes part in recapture and garrisons Fort.
July 29, 1779	King George III approves raising of 2 nd Bn., 42 nd Regt. under Gen. Lord John Murray. Maj. Norman MacLeod of MacLeod appointed Lt. Col. to 2 nd Bn.
June 16, 1779	Lt. Col. Stirling appointed Brevet Brigadier General in America. Maj. Charles Graham assumes command of 42 nd Regt.
Aug. 25, 1779	English and Irish recruits for 42 nd Regt. arrive in New York, later exchanged for Scots from drafted 25 th Regt. on Sept. 5.
Sept. 11, 1779	British Grenadier Bn. split into two Bns. 42 nd Gren. Co. assigned to 1 st Gren. Bn. under Lt. Col. Henry Hope.
Oct. 23, 1779	Stony Point abandoned. 42 nd Regt. returns to New York. 42 nd Regt. assigned winter quarters in " <i>New York and Bowery Lane</i> "
Dec. 15, 1779	Light Inf. Bn. split into two battalions. 42 nd Lt. Inf. Co., assigned to 1 st Lt. Inf. Bn. under Lt. Col. Robert Abercromby.
Dec. 26, 1779 – Feb. 11, 1780	42 nd Gren. and Lt Infantry Companies sail to S.C. with Gen. Sir Henry Clinton and land near Charleston.
Feb. 11-May 12, 1780	42 nd Gren. and Lt. Infantry Companies take part in Siege of Charleston

Mar. 31-Apr. 19, 1780	42 nd Regt. sails from New York as reinforcement for Siege of Charleston. Upon arrival assigned to work in the trenches advancing toward the American lines.
May 12, 1780	Rebel defenders surrender Charleston to Gen. Sir Henry Clinton
June 3- 19,1780	All 42 nd Regt. companies return to New York with Sir Henry Clinton
June 18, 1780	Brig. Gen. Thomas Stirling is badly wounded in thigh leading Gen. Knyphausen's advance into Springfield N.J. His wound would prevent his further active service in the war.
Jan. 20-22, 1781	The 2 nd Bn., 42 nd Regt. embarks from Portsmouth for service in unsuccessful secret expedition to take South Africa. Ordered to continue on to serve in India. The battalion was renumbered as the 73 rd Regt. in Apr. 1786 and never served with the 1 st Bn.
Mar. 20 – Apr. 1, 1781	42 nd Lt. Inf. Co. sails with 2100-man expedition under Maj. Gen. William Phillips to reinforce British forces in Virginia.
Apr. 25, 1781	42 nd Light Infantry Co. with the 1 st Lt. Inf. Bn. at the Battle of Petersburg, Va.
July 6, 1781	42 nd Light Infantry Co. at the battle of Green Springs, Va.
Aug. 2, 1782	Lord Cornwallis' army, with the 42 nd Lt. Inf. Co., moves to the port of Yorktown, Va.
Sept. 4, 1781	Lt. John Grant ordered to take half of Additional Company from Newfoundland to New York to reinforce the 1 st Bn., 42 nd Regt.
Oct. 17, 1781	British Lt. Infantry, take part in Lt. Col. Abercromby's sortie out of Yorktown lines to spike French cannon.
Oct. 18, 1781	British Lt. Infantry, including 42 nd Lt. Inf. Co, and other units cross York River in the dark to prepare to breakout of siege. Severe weather prevents entire force from crossing and breakout cancelled.
Oct. 19, 1781	42 nd Regt. and 42 nd Grenadiers sail as part of Relief expedition to reinforce Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.
Oct. 19, 1781	42 nd Light Infantry Co. surrendered as part of Lord Cornwallis' army at Yorktown. Lt. Inf. Officers released on parole and soldiers are sent to prisoner of war camps.
Nov. 3, 1781	42 nd Regt. and 42 nd Grenadiers return to New York after receiving word of Cornwallis' surrender on Oct ---
Aug. 9, 1782	42 nd Grenadier. Co. and other companies at New York ordered to return to their regiments.
Aug. 12, 1782	General Orders appointing Maj. Gen. Thomas Stirling to Col. of 71 st Highland Regt. effective Feb. 13, 1782. Maj. Charles Graham promoted to Lt. Col., 42 nd Regt. Capt. Walter Home, 7 th Fuzileers, becomes Major of 42 nd Regt.
Oct. 1782	Lt. Dougal Campbell ordered to take remaining half of Additional Company from Newfoundland to join 1 st Bn., 42 nd Regt. at New York.
Nov. 30, 1782	Preliminary Articles of Peace approved by Great Britain and the United States.
June 9, 1783	42 nd Regt. ordered on June 25 to reduce strength to Peace Establishment of Eight Companies of 1 Capt., 1 Lt., 1 Ens., 2 Sgts., 3 Corp., 2 Drummers, and 48 Private men.
May 9-June1, 1783	Two sergeants, one corporal and 37 privates released from prisoner of war camp to rejoin the 42 nd Regt.
Sept. 26, 1783	Discharged men of 42 nd Regt. wishing to settle in Canada embark to sail for Nova Scotia.
Oct. 11, 1783	42 nd Regt. sets sail for Halifax, Nova Scotia on Oct. 11 ending its participation in the American War for Independence
Oct. 16, 1783	Discharged men of 42 nd Regt. embark to sail for Scotland
June 1786	42 nd Regt. relieves 33 rd Regt. at Sydney, Cape Breton with Lt. Inf. Company and one other company sent to garrison Saint Johns Island (now PEI)
Aug. 31, 1789	42 nd Regt. arrives at Portsmouth, England after passage of nineteen days from Nova Scotia and service in America for thirteen years from 1776 to 1789.