

The Pennsylvania Line

Regimental Organization And Operations, 1776-1783

COMMUNITY GERIATRIC SERVICES



COMMUNITY GERIATRIC SERVICES



PROVENANT HEALTH PARTNERS



B. Some interesting Pictures of
the Units & Companies
Charles Served in.

1. B. Some interesting Pictures of
the Units & Companies
Charles Served in.

2. B. Some interesting Pictures of
the Units & Companies
Charles Served in.

ARTI:

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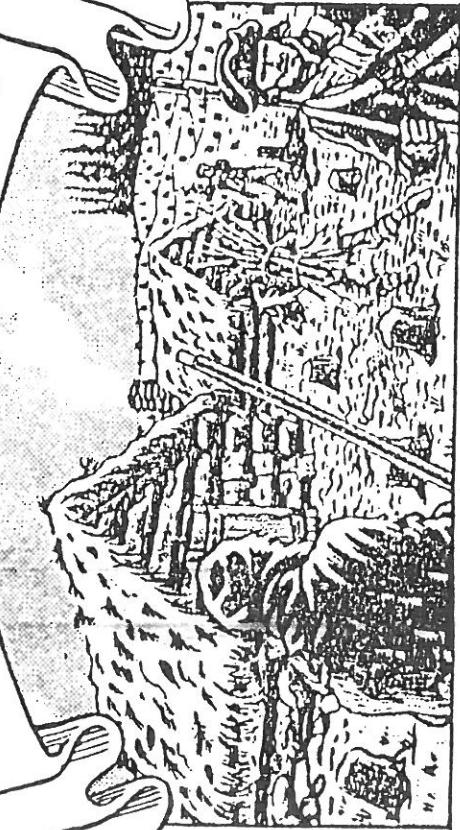
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The Pennsylvania Continentals

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Chapter VIII

6th Pennsylvania Battalion 7th Pennsylvania Regiment



ORGANIZATION

6th Pennsylvania Battalion

The 6th Pennsylvania Battalion was authorized on January 4, 1776. The original plan to recruit the battalion exclusively in Cumberland County was modified during the period of actual organization, with six of the eight companies being raised in Cumberland County and the remaining two in York County.¹

William Irvine was appointed colonel of the battalion. He continued to hold that position throughout the organization's existence.² The lieutenant colonel of the battalion, again for the duration of its service, was Thomas Hartley.³

Initially, James Dunlop was the battalion's major, but apparently he did not serve with the organization continuously. Although Dunlop was not promoted and transferred (to the 10th Pennsylvania Regiment) until October 25, 1776,⁴ David Grier had already been promoted—seemingly irregularly—to be the battalion's major with an effective date of June 1, 1776.⁵

- with experiencing the inevitable desertions, it appears that upwards of at least one fourth of the survivors of the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion joined the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment. This fact, combined with an unusually extensive list of rosters for the regiment, provides exceptionally strong documentation for the continuity not only between the battalion and the regiment but also between the specific companies of the two organizations.
- [Company A], commanded by Capt. Samuel Hay,⁷ of Cumberland County.⁸
 - [Company B], commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Talbot,⁹ of Cumberland County.⁹
 - [Company C], commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Talbot.⁹ By inference, it is clear that this company was recruited in Cumberland County.
 - [Company D], commanded by Capt. William Rippey.¹⁰ Although not explicitly so identified, this definitely was another of the Cumberland County companies.
 - [Company E], commanded by Capt. James Armstrong Wilson,¹¹ and also raised in Cumberland County. Captain Wilson was captured at Isle Aux Noix, in Canada, on June 21, 1776.¹² The company's first lieutenant, Samuel McFerren, was taken prisoner at the same time, and the only other officer of the company present for duty, Ensign Joseph Culberson, was killed.¹³ Probably this company was placed for command purposes under one of the other captains.
 - [Company F], commanded by Capt. Robert Adams¹⁴ and recruited in Cumberland County. Captain Adams was killed at Isle Aux Noix on June 24, 1776.¹⁵ To replace him, Lewis Bush, formerly first lieutenant of Company E, was promoted to captain.¹⁶

[Company G], raised in York County, was commanded by Capt. David Grier.¹⁷ On Grier's promotion to major on June 1, 1776, the company was put under the command of William Alexander, promoted from first lieutenant of Company D.¹⁸

[Company H], commanded by Capt. Moses McClean¹⁹ and also raised in York County,²⁰ Captain McClean was taken prisoner on June 24, 1776, at Isle Aux Noix, and not exchanged until March 27, 1777.²¹ By which time the battalion's term of service had expired. As he had been carried against the battalion's authorized strength throughout the time he was a prisoner, no one could be promoted to replace him. The company's first lieutenant, John Eddie, and its second lieutenant, John Hoe, had both been captured at Three Rivers on June 9, 1776,²² so it is likely that this company, as well as Company E, was simply attached to one of the other units of the battalion.

On the return of the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion to Carlisle in March, 1777, large numbers of its members enlisted in the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment, the battalion's successor unit. While the muster rolls of the two organizations give less than a definitive picture, a comparison of those rolls shows 139 enlisted veterans of the battalion serving in the regiment. As the initial strength of the battalion had been 710²³ and as it sustained considerable losses from disease and enemy action, together

The companies of the battalion were as follows:

- [Company A] raised in Cumberland County, commanded by Capt. Abraham Smith.⁶
- [Company B], commanded by Capt. Samuel Hay,⁷ of Cumberland County.⁸

- [Company C], commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Talbot.⁹ By inference, it is clear that this company was recruited in Cumberland County.
- [Company D], commanded by Capt. William Rippey.¹⁰ Although not explicitly so identified, this definitely was another of the Cumberland County companies.
- [Company E], commanded by Capt. James Armstrong Wilson,¹¹ and also raised in Cumberland County. Captain Wilson was captured at Isle Aux Noix, in Canada, on June 21, 1776.¹² The company's first lieutenant, Samuel McFerren, was taken prisoner at the same time, and the only other officer of the company present for duty, Ensign Joseph Culberson, was killed.¹³ Probably this company was placed for command purposes under one of the other captains.
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7th Pennsylvania Regiment

- Cpl. William Irvine had been captured at the fiasco at Three Rivers on June 9, 1776. Although he was paroled on the following August 3, he was not formally exchanged until May 6, 1778, and thus did not assume command of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment until that date. However, he did serve as colonel of the regiment for the year intervening between that time and his promotion to brigadier general on May 12, 1779.²⁴

In the meantime, when the regiment was first formed, Major David Grier had been promoted to Lieutenant colonel²⁵ replacing Lt. Col. Thomas Hartley, who had been appointed colonel of an "additional" Continental regiment on January 1, 1777;²⁶ and it was Grier who actually commanded the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment until he was wounded at Paoli on September 20, 1777. He did not return to duty,²⁷ and from that time until Colonel Irvine was exchanged, the senior officer present would have acted as regimental commander. When Colonel Irvine was promoted to brigadier general on May 12, 1779, Lt. Col. Morgan Conner, of Hartley's Regiment, was transferred to the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment. However, as this was often the date when Congress had banned any further promotions to the grade of colonel, he was not promoted; rather, he was designated as Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant. He commanded the regiment until December 2, 1779, when he began a six months leave, but was lost at sea in January, 1780.²⁸ No replacement was named until August 8, 1780, when Josiah Hanna was transferred from his assignment as lieutenant colonel of the 6th Pennsylvania Regiment to become Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment, a position which he then held until January 17, 1781.²⁹

The first major of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment was Samuel Hay,³⁰ who had been a company commander in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion.³¹ On February 21, 1778, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and assigned to the 10th Pennsylvania Regiment.³² He was not

placed until October 9, 1778, when James Parr was promoted from Captain, 1st Pennsylvania Regiment. Parr continued to hold this position for the rest of the war,⁴⁹ although during much of that time he was on detached service with organizations operating on the frontier against the Indians.

The companies of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment can be confidently identified with their parent companies of the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion, due to the recurrence of large numbers of the same names on the respective muster rolls.

• [Company A], commanded by Capt. John Alexander,⁵⁰ who in the battalion had been first lieutenant of this company under Capt. Abraham Smith.⁵¹ Captain Smith had left the army when the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion was mustered out⁵² and Alexander was promoted in his place, retaining command until January 17, 1781.⁵³

• [Company B], commanded by Capt. Samuel Montgomery.⁵⁴ This company's commander in the battalion, Capt. Samuel Hay, was promoted to major in the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment when it was formed. Montgomery, who had served in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion as an ensign and second lieutenant, was promoted to fill the vacancy. He commanded this company for the remainder of the war.⁵⁵

• [Company C], initially commanded in the regiment, as it had been in the battalion, by Capt. Jeremiah Talbot. He was promoted to major, 6th Pennsylvania Regiment on September 27, 1777.⁵⁶ The company then came under Andrew Irvine, who was promoted from first lieutenant,⁵⁷ having previously been a second lieutenant in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion. He continued as company commander until January 17, 1781.⁵⁸

• [Company D], which in the battalion had been under Capt. William Rippey, was in the regiment placed under Capt. Alexander Parker,⁵⁹ as Rippey resigned his commission on March 20, 1777.⁶⁰ Parker, who had been a second lieutenant and first lieutenant in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion, commanded his company until January 17, 1781.⁶¹

• [Company E], commanded by Capt. Robert Wilson.⁶² In the battalion, he had been a second lieutenant in the same company,⁶³ when it had been commanded by Capt. James Armstrong Wilson until his capture on June 24, 1776. Capt. Robert Wilson was wounded at Paoli on September 20, 1777, and resigned his commission on March 1, 1778.⁶⁴ Subsequently, this unit became the "Major's Company" of the regiment, and as such was commanded, at least nominally, by Major James Parr.

• [Company F], commanded by Capt. William Bratton.⁶⁵ In the battalion, this company had been under Capt. Robert Adams until he was

killed, and then under Capt. Lewis Bush. As Captain Bush did not join the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment, transferring instead to Hartley's Regiment, this company was assigned to Captain Bratton. He had been first lieutenant of the same company in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion.⁶⁶ On April 17, 1779, he resigned from the army,⁶⁷ and was replaced by William Miller, promoted on that date from captain-lieutenant of Company H.⁶⁸

• [Company G] continued for a time under Capt. William Alexander,⁶⁹ who had been promoted to command it when its original commander, Capt. David Grier, had become major of the battalion. On April 11, 1780, Alexander was promoted to major, 3d Pennsylvania Regiment.⁷⁰ His successor as company commander was Capt. Samuel Kennedy,⁷¹ who had been an ensign and second lieutenant in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion and a second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and captain-lieutenant in the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment. Kennedy continued as commander of Company G until January 17, 1781.⁷²

• [Company H], commanded by Capt. John McDowell.⁷³ In the battalion, this company had been under Capt. Moses McClean until he was taken prisoner. McClean was exchanged on March 27, 1777, but left the army at that time,⁷⁴ and McDowell, who had been a first lieutenant in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion, was appointed in his place. McDowell was a physician by profession, and on February 2, 1778, he resigned his captaincy to accept appointment as Surgeon, 6th Pennsylvania Regiment.⁷⁵ Company H then became the "Lieutenant Colonel's Company" of the regiment, operating under the actual command of Capt.-Lt. William Miller,⁷⁶ who was promoted to captain on May 12, 1779,⁷⁷ and transferred to command Company F. As the Lieutenant Colonel's Company, this unit then came under Capt.-Lt. John Bush,⁷⁸ who had been an ensign in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion and a first lieutenant in the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment prior to his promotion to captain-lieutenant. He served as commander of this company until January 17, 1781.⁷⁹

• [Company I] was an additional unit, formed to bring the regiment up to its full complement of nine companies as provided by the organization of May 27, 1778. It was commanded by Capt. William Lusk.⁸⁰ He had been an ensign in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion and a first lieutenant in the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment. He was promoted to captain, having been a captain-lieutenant for less than a month, on May 12, 1779. He commanded this company until January 17, 1781.⁸¹ Many of the men of the 7th Pennsylvania Regiment continued to wear the same "regimentals" they had been issued when serving in the 6th Pennsylvania Battalion. One deserter, however, had a blue coat faced with white instead of red, and others were dressed in a diversity of

TABLE IV
Losses by Grade

Grade	Killed	Wounded	Captured	Injured	Missing	Died	Total
Colonel	—	2	6	—	2	2	10
Lieutenant Colonel	2	9	2	—	2	9	14
Major	5	4	4	—	3	14	70
Captain	6	17	35	—	14	70	14
Captain-Lieutenant	—	1	2	—	1	1	4
1st Lieutenant	7	16	35	—	1	1	62
2d Lieutenant	14	6	25	—	3	48	48
3d Lieutenant	3	1	2	—	1	7	7
Ensign	5	3	12	—	3	23	23
Adjutant	—	2	—	—	—	2	3
Quartermaster	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Chaplain	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Surgeon	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Surgeon's Mate	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total officer losses	41	58	127	0	33	259	259
Sergeant Major	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Drum Major	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Sergeant	13	26	34	11	11	11	95
Corporal	9	9	19	—	1	1	41
Drummer, Fifer	—	3	5	6	2	2	17
Private	114	193	387	222	146	146	1,062
Total enlisted losses	137	252	445	240	163	163	1,217
Total, all grades	178	400	774	359	33	33	1,990

TABLE V

Grade	Total Officer Loss Rates			% of Total Officers Serving	Losses	Loss Total Serving in Grade	% of Total Officer Loss
	Serving in Grade	% of Total Officers Serving	Losses				
Colonel	53	2.6	10	1.3	3	1.3	4.1
J. C. Colonel	48	3.8	9	1.5	3	1.5	3.6
Major	64	5.1	14	1.4	14	1.4	5.7
Captain	317	25.1	70	25.1	70	25.1	28.3
1st Lieutenant	802	63.4	144	63.4	144	63.4	58.3
Total	1,004	100	328	100	328	100	100

TABLE VI

Line Officer Loss Rates, Killed and Wounded					
Trade	Grade	% of Total Officers Serving		Losses	
		Total	Serving in Battalion	Total	% of Total Losses
Adjutant	33	2.6		2	1:16.5
Adjt. Colonel	48	3.8		5	1:9.6
Major	64	5.1		7	1:9.1
Captain	917	25.1		23	1:35.8
2d Lieutenant	802	63.4		56	1:14.3
Total	1,264				60.2

TABLE VII
Nature of Wounds

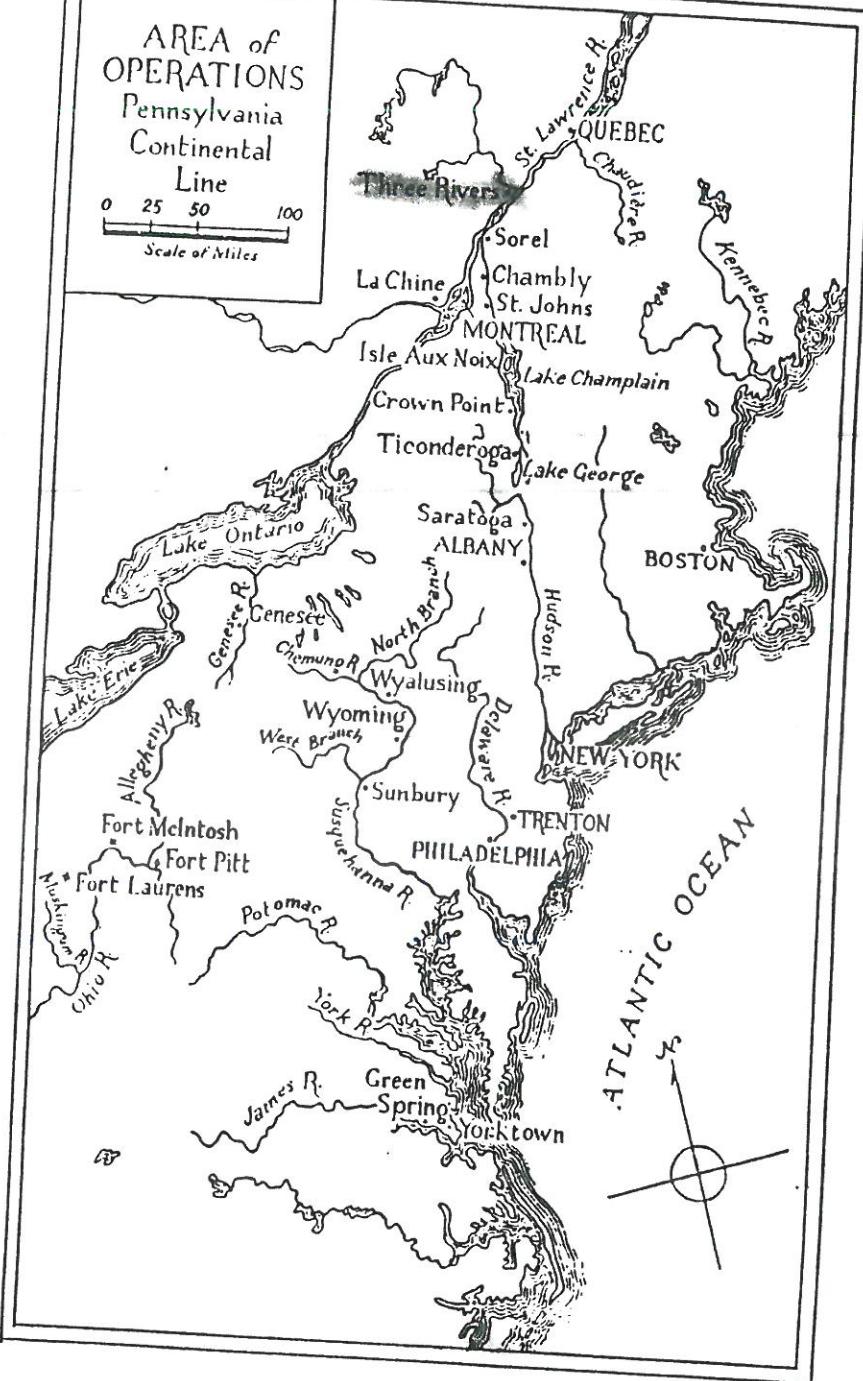
Head	11	Arm	19	Hip	2	Total	60
Face	1	Wrist	5	Thigh	11		
Chin	1	Hand	15	Knee	30		
Eyes	3			Ankle	10		
Jaw	1	Total	18	Foot	9		
Neck	1			Heel	3		
						Total	33
Total	11	Shoulder	12				
		Breast	1				
		Rib	2				
		Body	6				
		Side	6				
		Groin	6				
		Total	33				

TABLE VIII
Losses by Engagement

Engagement	Killed	Wounded	Injured	Captured	Missing	Total
Ploughed Hill, Aug. 27, 1775	1	—	—	—	—	1
Boston, Sept., 1775	—	—	—	2	—	2
Lectinere's Point, Nov. 9, 1775	1	1	1	—	—	3
Quebec, Dec. 31, 1775	9	10	93	—	—	112
La Chine, May 27, 1776	—	—	—	10	—	10
Three Rivers, June 9, 1776	4	11	44	57	—	116
Isle aux Noix, June 24, 1776	3	—	7	—	—	10
Statue Island, July 26, 1776	1	—	—	—	—	1
Long Island, Aug. 27, 1776	5	20	34	—	—	63
Lake Champlain, Oct. 11-13, 1776	—	2	2	—	—	4
White Plains, Oct. 27, 1776	—	—	1	—	—	1
Skirmish, Nov. 8, 1776	—	—	1	—	—	1
Fort Washington, Nov. 16, 1776	8	13	21	—	—	42
New Brunswick, Dec. 1, 1776	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trenton, Jan. 2, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Princeton, Jan. 3, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ash Swamp (Plainfield), Feb., 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern New Jersey, Mar., 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bound Brook, Apr. 12-13, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bonhamtown, Apr. 15, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Piscataway, Apr. 20, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Amboy, Apr. 25, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Piscataway, May 8, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern New Jersey, May 27, 1777	—	—	—	—	—	—

AREA of
OPERATIONS
Pennsylvania
Continental
Line

0 25 50 100
Scale of Miles



which paper are in the Historical Society of York county. After the Revolution Lieutenant Eddie became brigadier general in the state militia.

Lieutenant Abdiel McAllister, of Grier's company, who was captured at Three Rivers, was the oldest son of Colonel Richard McAllister, founder of Hanover, who commanded the Second regiment in the Flying Camp.

CAPTAIN MOSES McCLEAN'S COMPANY.

COMMUNITY GERIATRIC SERVICES



MERCY MEDICAL
CENTER

PROVENANT HEALTH PARTNERS

Note the Many ways Charles
is listed in the Rev.
Spelling is impossible + those
reading the documents see the
Name different. Also, a
Person who records your name
May not understand your accent
if he doesn't speak your
language -

makes me crazy!

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Stephen P. Carmel, MD
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Thomas F Jenkins, MD

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Dulfield, Felix
Dunlap, John
Evan, William
Entrican, William
Faith, Alexander
Gerard, Mathias
Gibbons, Henry
Graynor, Thomas
Griffith, David
Hall, John
Hargie, John
Heinerman, Michael
Hughes, William

McDonald, William
McDowell, John
McFarland, Jacob
McGee, John
McGonagal, Neal
McGuian, Patrick
McKeeder, Owen
McManery, James
McWilliams, John
Morgan, Christian
Mullen, Daniel
Murphy, Dennis
Murray, Eneas

Needham, Robert
Nelson, Thomas
Nolan, Luke
O'Hara, Dennis
Patten, John
Patterson, John
Robinson, John

Sample, William
Shugart, Eli
Simonton, John
Sloane, David
Smith, Patrick
Sullivan, Peter
Tibbens, Henry

CAPTAIN DAVID GRIER'S COMPANY.

Captain David Grier's company came from York, Hanover, the vicinity of Dillsburg and the lower end of York county. Its membership was almost entirely composed of Scotch-Irish. The following is the complete muster roll of the company:

Captain,
Grier, David.

First Lieutenant,
McDowell, John.

Second Lieutenant,
McAllister, Abdiel.

Ensigns,
Nichols, William.
Hughes, John.

Sergeants,
Walker, Andrew.
Knox, John.
Jeffries, Robert.
Hayman, John.

Corporals,
Lawson, James.
McIlhenny, Felix.
Lethew, David.
Tomson, Ezra.

Drum and Fife,
Hamilton, James.
Wright, Mathias.

Privates,

Hoy, Thomas
Jackson, Archibald

Johnston, Robert
Johnston, William

Kelly, George
Kelly, Thomas

Leeson, James
Mason, William

Matthews, Jacob
McCall, John

McCoy, William
McDaniel, John

McGowan, Samuel
McKissack, Henry

McMeehan, Michael
McMullan, James

Mealy, Lawrence
Murphy, Michael

Murphy, Dennis
O'Loan, Patrick

O'Niel, Peter
Pearcy, John

Price, James
Quigley, William

Redmond, Murtough
Robinson, James

Roney, Patrick
Russel, Joseph

Scullion, Patrick
Schregh, Peter

Here we see Charles in 61ers Co. + in other Rev. War
Papers I sent me see Karl —

Ch. 11