



71st Reg't

**“Nemo Me Impune
Lacessit”**

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Latta to Walnut Grove Campaign After Action Report

Dear Regiment,

Latta 1-2 - It has been a busy month as we have been in the field almost continuously since the first weekend of September, from Latta to Walnut Grove. I will begin with Latta and outline the regiments actions for the month.

We marched on Charlotte on August 31st. Kirk and Brett arrived early in the afternoon to set up camp and cover my provost duties until I could arrive at dusk. We were joined by Kendall from the site who camped with us for the weekend. Becky and Logan and Lee would show up later in the evening looking bewildered and unable to find the camp next to the kitchen. We enjoyed a quiet evening before preparing to battle the rebel.

Saturday morning the after breakfast the lads from the 71st and 84th met for a game of shinty....in 88 degree weather....100 percent humidity! The highland troops were unaccustomed to the heat and humidity of the colonies. Despite the conditions we had a great game, and lots of water breaks. Alas, the 84th was triumphant over the 71st this year. We agreed on a rematch at Camden but decided it would be better to join forces and take on the rebels in the open field.

Saturday afternoon we formed up to face the rebels. Our skirmishers made contact with their militia and



Shinty at Latta

the dragoons advanced and marched toward the house. Ably commanded by Stu or Captain Pid if you prefer, we pushed the rebels into the woods.

Sunday more rebels deserted. Brett and I went on a secret mission to infiltrate the rebel camp and steal their rum. However, we were dragged into the fight with them and facing the valiant 71st. Even though we were caught fighting on the wrong side we looked out for our young officer who lay wounded near a tree. The rebels, by some miracle managed to

push the British from the field. Who knew Brett and I made such a difference in the fight.

I am going to short change Kirk, unfortunately. He does so much from setting up camp to preparing meals its hard to describe it all. We ate very well over the weekend. The site provided us with a wonderful BBQ dinner Saturday night.

I almost forgot to mention Ian and Lucy. This was their first event and I think they did quite well adjusting to the rigors of 18th century camp life!



In attendance, Kirk and Wendy, Bethany, Braxton, Becky, Logan, Brett, Lee, Kendall, Ian and Lucy, and Denis

Election Results!

President – Denis Byrd

Treasurer – Wendy Smith

Secretary – Gary Dunning

Quartermaster – Kirk Smith

Festival of Yesteryear Sept 8th

The very next weekend we muster in Campbellton and Cross Creek to educate the public and recruit them to the cause of the King. In attendance we had Kirk, Wendy, Bethany, Braxton, Scott, and me. We performed well for the public showing them the fine drill of the King's army. As always, we were fed lunch and treated well.

The Malcom Blue Festival Sept 22nd

With a week in between events we then march to Aberdeen to the farm of Malcolm Blue. A fine highland settler. This is a new event but likely one we will attend in the future as it is near many of us in the Highland settlements along the Cape Fear. In attendance were Kirk, Wendy, Bethany, Braxton, Brett, and me. All were impressed by our fine uniforms and drill. God save the King!

Walnut Grove Oct 6-7

Alas, we were without our stalwart quartermaster for this event. The first in many moons. We suffered and fair as best we could. My presidential wagon was packed tight. Gary, Tracy, and Brett arrived early on Friday to scout out the site before my arrival. With the addition of Becky, they all went out for dinner before my arrival. Our normal campsite was occupied, and Gary reconnoitered a new site along the road. Upon my arrival they returned from the local tavern to assist with the setting up of camp. We made short work of it and had the tents up in an hour. Unfortunately, our site was a haven for pesky little fire ants. I am not sure about the others but Becky and I both received around 50 bites each. With the tents set up we joined our friends in the Legion for some campfire songs and good ale.

Even though the quartermaster did not attend I did my best to keep up morale. I had a fire going around 5:30 and I made sure to drip water for coffee outside of the tents at 5:30 sharp. A few made a run to the necessities around 5:35. Coffee was a little flat. My espresso grounds had trouble as they logged the filter. Gary went into the country side to secure coffee. Breakfast of bacon and eggs was provided

for by Gary. I did not cook as planned but left Brett in charge, so I could attend the officers meeting.

Around breakfast, we were joined by a new recruit Jim. We had him kitted out and drilling before noon. The four of us marched off to form up with the other British line. We were to march around the house and take prisoners. Two rebels were captured and executed by the 71st and Legion. We were then attacked by the cowardly rebels and formed a line. After trading several volleys, they retreated.



We returned for a lunch provided and prepared by Brett, an excellent chicken bog. No rest for the weary but we formed up for the second battle. Alas no rebels were there to fight! They were attended the auction still going on. I had the men stand down. Nearly half an hour later I would receive word that we were to form up. The rebels were forming in front of the house and we would form two columns and lay down alternating volleys until we were forced to retreat.

At 17:00 the rum ration was issued as we waited for dinner. We enjoyed a jovial evening around the fire and were joined by Ron and Logan.

Sunday, I prepared the breakfast of choice, Kirk's breakfast hash! We spent the morning preparing the muskets for the upcoming action. I spent some time drilling Logan to prepare him for his first firing. The battle followed the same plan as yesterday, but we were much more successful, harassing the captives and executing them. We would enjoy a hardy lunch

provided for by Becky and would break camp around 16:00

Now I must prepare for our next action in Camden. The Guy is coming along, and half the torches are made. I must not forget our Gaelic phrases for the month.

Gaelic Phrases

Slainte mhath *Slanj'-uh va'* Good Health!

Moran taing *maw'-run tah'-eeng* Many Thanks

Tapadh leat *TAH-puh let* Thank you

Tha – equivalent of yes but there is no true yes or no in Gaelic.

Your Humble and Obedient Servant,

Denis Byrd
God Save the King!

