



Cincinnati *Fourteen*

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The Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati is pleased to announce the unveiling of a significant addition to its website. Clifford Butler Lewis, President of the Pennsylvania Society and his successor, Thomas Butler Lewis, have meticulously compiled a comprehensive database of all those officers that served as in the American Revolution who were original members of the Pennsylvania Society.

This was a painstaking multi-year effort that required a lot of diligent work that compiled cross- referenced historical data from a number of different sources. These sources included *Pennsylvania in the American Revolution*, *Lines and Battalions*, *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army 1775-1783*, *The Pennsylvania Line Regimental Organization and Operations*, and *Virtutis Praemium, The Men Who Founded the State Society of the Cincinnati In Pennsylvania*.

The database enables outside researchers, academics and members of the Society of the Cincinnati to seamlessly research the officers who served in a Pennsylvania line during the American Revolution.

The database permits anyone who visits the Pennsylvania Society's website to a conduct simple search using an intuitive web based interactive format. Remarkably, this database combines information from a variety of different sources into a digital format that significantly reduces the amount of time and effort required to research the engagements, officers and units associated with the Pennsylvania lines.

A query can be conducted using three different methods. One such manner of conducting a search is to click on the link entitled Military Actions. This method of search permits one to view all of the engagements in which Pennsylvania officers served in a chronological order. It conveniently lists both the officers and the units in which they served during the engagement.

A second method of search can be conducted by clicking on the Officers tab. This will then bring up an alphabetical list of all of the officers that served in a Pennsylvania line. By clicking on a particular officer one is presented with a chronological list of the engagements in which they participated as well as a chronological list of the units in which they served and the positions they held in said units.

A third method of search is conducted by clicking on the Units tab. This allows one to be presented with a chronological list of the engagements in which various Pennsylvania units participated, in a chronological sequence. It also provides a list of those officers that served in each unit including their dates of service and rank during their service in said unit.

The database ties all of these search methods seamlessly together by allowing one to click on a unit, officer or military engagement, anywhere within the database and be provided with all of the pertinent information as it relates to the unit, officer or engagement in question.

The Pennsylvania Society is proud to be the first state society to compile an interactive database of this nature. The database significantly reduces the amount of time and effort required to research the units, ranks and battles in which members of the Pennsylvania Society participated.

The Pennsylvania Society is in the process of adding the ability to locate the named gravesites of members who served in the Continental Army. This is in addition to the ongoing efforts to chronicle the public offices held by members of the Pennsylvania Society.

President Cliff Lewis notes that since these useful research capabilities have been added, the average length of time spent of the Pennsylvania Society's website has increased dramatically to over 45 minutes. This has been a tremendous way for Pennsylvania to increase its public outreach to members of the society and members of the public who seek to learn more about the Original Members of the Pennsylvania Society.

William Hoyt Olinger