

membered in South Salem, New York, last December. A memorial tablet in the Presbyterian church of that city was unveiled. During the exercises the following poem was read. It was written by Marion P. Lindsley, the wife of A. A. Lindsley, of Portland, Oregon:

A MEMORIAL.

Give me a mind, Oh Lord, like his, most just
To choose between the right, the true and wrong,
With mercy generous, and in action strong.

Give me a heart like his, steadfast and deep
To see temptation and forgive the fall,
As Christ, Thy Son, forgave the sins of all.

Give me a soul like his, with wings to soar,
Uplifting on its pinions to the skies
The souls of others that else could not rise

Revolutionary Letter by Baron de Kalb.

The study of history constantly reveals unexpected sources in out of the way places. The Library of the State of Washington has an old letter written by Baron de Kalb. The story of how it came there is itself interesting history.

On August 9, 1898, Herbert Bashford, then Librarian, received a letter from Jesse Baker, Assessor of Wahkiakum County, which contained the following information:

"I don't remember whether I told you how I came in possession of the letter I am sending. I will do so now. I was a member of Co. H., 34th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and in March, 1862, several companies of my regiment, mine among the number, captured Columbia, Tenn., and occupied the court house for quarters. Previously several companies of a Confederate regiment had occupied the same building, and in the building was a room occupied by an antiquarian society. Before the Confederates left they had scattered the property of said society all over the floor. In looking over the letters on the floor, I found the one enclosed, and also one from Gen. Nathaniel Green to Gen. Washington, and also a twenty-pound colonial bill. These three I sent back to Polo, Ogle County, Illinois. Baron de Kalb's letter I recovered while back in Illinois last summer, but the last two seem to be lost entirely.

"The two holes in the letter I think were caused by being torn from some kind of clasp in which the letters were confined; but the general meaning of the letter can readily be determined so one can get the sense of the whole. In looking over the history of the United States, I should judge that Baron de Kalb

was killed a short time after writing the letter, in fact, I should think in the next fight he had with the British, of whom he is trying to get intelligence as to strength and position."

Mr. Baker's conjecture about the Baron's death following close upon the writing of this letter is well borne out by the brief sketch in the Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography. The letter was written on July 7, 1780, and the Battle of Camden took place on August 13. Says the above book: "Neither party was aware of the close proximity of its opponent until the advanced guards met, about two o'clock in the morning. In the battle that ensued soon after sunrise, Kalb commanded on the American right and was driving his adversary, Lord Rawdon, before him, when the defeat of our left wing exposed his flank and rear to the assaults of Webster and Tarleton. Kalb was thus attacked on all sides, but remained during the whole encounter, fighting bravely to the last. Bareheaded and dismounted, with sword in hand, he engaged in one personal encounter after another, encouraging his men with his voice as well as his example, till he had received eleven wounds. His lieutenant, Du Buysson, saved him from instant death. He died three days afterward and was buried at Camden. A marble monument was erected to his memory by the citizens of that town, the corner stone being laid by General Lafayette in 1825."

The letter, as near as can be made out, is as follows:

Camp on Deep river near Wilcoxes.
July 7th, 1780.

Sir:

The provisions I expected not only for four or fi.....ys march but als.....all magazin of some days.....here to ha.....to in case of necess.....coming in.....that it will be imposs.....or me to move.....several days; as soon.....it will be possible.....will do myself the honor to acquaint you therewith if you will please to inform me of your direction and march. The troops here are greatly distressed for want of meat, the men of our party that are sent out to drive them are not at all proper for that business—the more as they have no horses: they have much to do to get cattle and lose them again in the woods.

If you could favor me with a party of your light horse-men to be employed in, and provide for the purpose, I should be highly obliged to you.

As we act with great caution when once at Cole's bridge, the the enemy's reinforcing at Cheraws, it would be very necessary to have the best intelligence of their forces, situation, and design. If you had two or more proper officers or other persons to go among them, and get the best information, it might be of great service to us all.

It is possible the enemy's informed of our march and perhaps of our forces, to collect all theirs to march against us, being much superior to us in horse, and for what I know in infantry too, it would be unfortunate to go beyond Cole's, especially if we were not assured of the enemy's position, and of having laid in a certain quantity of flour in our rear on Deep river—(And indeed it would be necessary to have magazins in several other parts of this State)

I have sent on to-day to post at Cole's bridge, the South Carolina Volunteers about fifty in number, and to employ themselves in collecting flour, cattle &c towards our arrival.

With great.....and esteem, I the honor to be
Dea.....

Your very hu..... nd most
Obedient Servant

THE BARON DE KALB.

The Hon'ble
M. G. Caswell.

On the back was written: Express. Public Service. The
Hon. Maj. General Caswell, Head Quarters.