Primary Source: An Authentick Relation of the Battle of Alamance [1]

Just like today, news travels fast, and it did not take long for an account of the May 16, 1771 battle at Alamance to appear in papers. Below you can read a transcription of a report published in the Virginia Gazette, from Williamsburg, Virginia. It appeared in the paper a little over a month after the battle on June 27, 1771. The transcription includes historical annotations and definitions for more information.

Williamsburg, June 27.

An Authentick Relation of the Battle of Alamance, the 16th Day of May, 1771

On Wednesday Evening, the 15th Instant, his Excellency received certain Information that the Insurgences were assembled at about six Miles from the Camp at Great Alamance. A Council of War being called, it was unanimously [2] resolved to march the next Morning against them. Accordingly, on Thursday the 16th, the Army leaving the Tents standing, and all the Baggage and Provisions (3) in Camp, under the Guard of a Field Officer and about fifty Men, began to march at about eight o'Clock in the Morning, and advanced to an old Field within Half a Mile of the Rebels, when his Excellency formed the Order of Battle, in two Lines, Part of the Artillery on each Wing, and the Remainder in the center of the first Line. His Excellency then sent one of his Aid de Camps, and the Sheriff of Orange, with a Letter to the Rebels, requiring them to lay down their Arms, surrender their outlawed Ringleaders, and submit themselves to the Laws of their Country, allowing them one Hour to accept of the Terms, to prevent the Effusion of Blood, which must ensue [4], as they were at that Time in a State of War and Rebellion against their King, their Country, and their Laws. In the mean Time, the Army kept advancing nearer to the Enemy. The messenger from afterwards returned, and reported to his Excellency that the Rebels had received his Offers with Disdain [5], and the general Cry among them was, Battle! Battle! Immediately after a considerable Body of them appeared in Sight, and waved their Hats, daring the Men to advance; upon which the Army continued moving towards them, until they were within thirty Yards of the Enemy, when his Excellency sent an Aid de Camp to inform them that the Hour was elapsed, and that he should immediately fire. They called out that he might fire and be damned. Upon the Return of the Aid de Camp the Action began, and a hot Fire was kept up on both Sides for about an Hour and a Quarter, when it abated [6] a little from the Enemy. The Cannon was ordered to cease firing, and the whole Army to advance. Then the first Line, after engaging three Quarters of an Hour longer, drove the Enemy out of the Field, and gained a complete Victory. Their Camp was taken, with many Horses, Arms, Ammunition [7], Clothes, and Provisions. The Army, after having Care taken of their Wounded, got back to their Camp by Sunset. It is computed that the Rebels must have had killed in the Battle about one Hundred Men, two Hundred more wounded, and upwards of twenty taken Prisoners. The Loss of the Loyalists was nine killed, and about sixty wounded. The Number of the Rebels in he Battle, from the best Information, could not be less than two Thousand three Hundred. Our Army did not exceed one Thousand Men, of which not more than six Hundred were engaged. The Artillery was well served, and did great Execution. The Behaviour of the Officers and Men, on this Occasion, will appear by what the Governour gave in Orders the next Day.

User Tags:

battles [8]

colonial [9]

history [10]

military [11] militia [12]

North Carolina [13]

North Carolina History [14]

Page [15]

Regulators [16]

Students [17]

Teachers [18]

William Tryon [19]

Creative Commons BY-NC-SA [20]

From

ANCHOR: A North Carolina History Online Resource [21]

Copyright Date:

2009

Places:

1



Alamance Battleground N.C. State Historic Site [22]



Monuments at Alamance Battleground [24]

John Chioralive Landsea	apes of N.C., UNC-Chapel Hill
includes primary sources	s and historical commentary)
Vatch and Listen:	
	ire an eighteenth-century cannon [25] at Alamance Battleground. The cannon is typical of the r Tryon's troops during the Battle of Alamance in 1771.

Related Topics:

The Regulator Movement for K-8 Students [27]

Primary Sources:

With the fretheft ADVICES,

IN CIVITATE LIBERA LINGUAM MENTEMQUE

GAZETTE.

FOREIGN and DOMESTICK.

LIBERAS ESSE DEBERE. Suet. in Tib.

Printed by ALEX. PURDIE, and JOHN DIXON, at the POST OFFICE.

To the COUNTRY CLERGYMAN

Gefrienden.

On your fo furprifingly faying that you have so Convex with Society diseased of the Clearing of General, I cannot part with this Trepak without protting you farther in Mind. Out theology how fiscals him has a General work Society's Accuse of the Clearing of General, yet you have a great Dea of Concern with Society and Archive of the Clearing of General, yet you have a great Dea and Mindste too. You may remember that you introduced these great and Mindste too. You may remember that you introduced these great and the because they were beed among the Diffusions, and obstanced Posterial Societies, a Fiscaled Posterial Control of the Confirmation, and obstanced Posterial to Annexican Epidogenia. If you want faither Satisfaction concerning its Societies, public Confirmation, and on Annexican Epidogenial, refer to the Annexican Epidogenial, refer to the Production of the Golgel in Seringer Posts, and to his lat Will has Treathment. Each held for the Golgel in Seringer Posts, and to his lat Will has Treathment. Fast held for the Warden Posterial to an Annexican Epidogene. Bright, to my Knowledge (for I was an Kye Warten's eff it) was diagrent in the Pradice of Confirmation, not only for himself, but for other Bildings; and he bequesthed two Hendsel Founds to an Annexican Epidogene. But See out in his Posted. Beares, you know, was a signed Bildings of the Bear of the Stead. Beares, you know, was a signed Bildings and Bildings of the Confirmation, you know, was a signed Bildings and the Boar of this Posted. Beares, you know, was a signed Bildings of Found Cleaning the Difference, the Princepost between one forms of Change to comment and such that the Confirmation and the Confirmation of the Con

is the Advice of his Bretheen, is the Skeilert Instrument both for propaparity and professing the Christian Religion." Othere now, here are
guing and professing the Christian Religion." Othere now, here are
guing and professing the Christian Religion." Othere now, here are
guing and profession that Infed Christian. To other his other
guing and legicies the object that Infed Christian. On the Notice, that
and legicies the object the Break Christian Infed Christian
and legicies. The object that Infed Christian Infed Christian
that Affair does no Way concern the Premoters of a Pitake Notice, that
that Affair does no Way concern the Premoters of a Pitake Notice, that
that Affair does no Way concern the Premoters of a Pitake of the most
than Affair does no Way concern the Premoters of a Pitake of the
the may great plantifications of Candidates for the Options and a distant
Billoop can be, that he may infed into the Candidate for the Clergy, and that
to may great the Cargy. For the Readons, about the Dedication of Churchs,
to make the Christian of the Christian Christian
to more than thus, with may and the imple Quellian between or revi every Dedication of a Church, without Reference of the Christian
that the Dedication of one Church was by drains Carmand, there
one is a not descent in a Contrary Clergyman to call very Dedication of a
Charch, without Refere or Exception, a Figgery, unless be will Gy that
a Figgery has had the Sanchian of a dwine Carmand. The Text which you
have quested, delivered by the dwine Author of our holy Religion did not
treat all Cwenness as deal and now Worthip, a signature of the
complete with many Ceremonics. He infillment and rew Worthip. In
Complete with many Ceremonics.

rifes to fuch a Height, as all his Learning, though ever for profound, cannot compeniate for. Bet the cancer arters I am in all those good Wither much the more publicately do I wish for an American Episiopane, because it think it the month likely human Means both encoure the Diducters that the control of the profound of the publication of the publicatio

in your in It Amagesph, but ones, you are agen at your Chereb of Primitive In your in It Amagesph, that ones, you are agen at your Chereb of Primitive In your in It Amagesph, that ones, you are agen at your Chereb of Primitive In your Managesph, and the It is exceeded to the Chareb of Indian Ind

Next Cawus, reverend Sure, went footing flows;

He heads his mitted Locks, and them helpides.

This is a fove Thruth at my Friend Cawus. I have confusited him upon it. He periods, that he has no Ambition, or Inclination, to wear the Brans of the Miller, that he has no Ambition, or Inclination, to wear the Brans of the Miller, the has no Ambition, or Inclination, to be a Bildop, he would not wear to old tablesond a Dreaf as the Miller; which, he believes, has been hid aftle by the Bildops, the head of the Bildops, the head of the Bildops, he had been to the Bildops. The head of the Bildops of the Bildops, the best was the Bildops of the Bildops. After upon it, he wall be no more flowed take it into his Bildops. On the Bildops, the work of the Bildops. After upon it, he wall be no more flowed take it into his Bildops. On the Bildops, the work of the Bildops. After upon it, he wall be no more of a Country Claymont. Pudding Sieves, or of a Medi John's Band and Cloat, or of a Frenche Cap of our Students at the College, or of the High Close's Caps of the Loads, or of any Apparel in which the capital and whimfined Part of the hur an Fabrick may think fit to adorn itsid. As to my Friend Ca w us'n few Franches of the Frenches Cap of our Students at the College, or of the High Close's Caps of the branches of the High Close's Cap of the Bildops's the State of the High Close's Cap of the

an very glad, my Courty Ciergyman, that I am now going to your consistency of worth, though not, I kope, your dying Speech, though not, I kope, your dying Speech, and the state of American Liberty, was publicly received fair, the riting Plane of American Liberty, was publicly received fair, the riting Plane of American Liberty, was publicly received fair, the riting Plane of the fair of the profits of the state of the contribution Liberty of the state of the contribution Liberty of the profits of the profits of the profits of the state of the Courtive Centry of Verginia against being made the wast of the Courtive Centry of Centry and From the Conductor, the state of the Courtive Centry of Centry of the Speech Centry of the Courtive Centry of the Speech Centry of the Courtive Centry of the Centry of the

[28]

View the original news article [28] of "An Authentik Relation of the Battle of Alamance" in the *Virginia Gazette* from June 27, 1771

Source URL: https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/primary-source-authentick

l inke

[1] https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/primary-source-authentick [2] https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/unanimous [3]

https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/provisions [4] https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/ensue [5] https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/disdain [6]

https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/abate [7] https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/ammunition [8] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/battles [9]

https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/colonial [10] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/history [11] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/militia [13]

https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-5 [14] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-6 [15]

https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/page [16] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/regulators [17]

https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/students [18] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/students [19]

https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/william-tryon [20] https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/creative-commons [21]

https://www.ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/anchor-north [22] https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/alamance-battleground [23]

https://docsouth.unc.edu/commland/monument/25/ [24] https://docsouth.unc.edu/commland/results/?q=alamance+battleground [25]

https://www.youtube.com/embed/rcYrHYrZ9zE [26] https://soundcloud.com/user-922148116/alamance-battleground-and-the-regulator-movement [27] https://www.ncpedia.org/regulator-movement-k-8-students [28] https://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/va-gazettes/VGSinglePage.cfm?

issueIDNo=71.PD.28& amp; amp; page=3& amp; amp; res=LO~[29]~https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/custom/regulator-movement. The properties of the properties