

THE NEW YORK LINE OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY.

The perusal of the foregoing Proceedings of the Provincial Congress &c will have shown, that the Continental Congress made three calls on the people of *New York* for assistance in their struggle against the attempts at coercion by the *British* Ministry, the first in 1775, the second early in 1776, and the third in the summer of 1776. Hardly any documentary evidence has been preserved to show, who answered to the first two of these calls by shouldering their muskets and reporting "ready for service" to the officers, of whose names more or less complete returns exist. In giving names of the officers and of a few men of the first and second "Continental Establishments," the Editor has tried to avoid repeating lists of names, etc., already published in the "Calendar of Revolutionary Papers," two Volumes, published by authority of the State in 1868. An examination of the Legislative Papers, collected from 1778 to 1830, of the Minutes of the Council of Appointment and of the Pension Board, has enabled the Editor to disinter the names of many Revolutionary worthies from the tomb of oblivion, where, however, many more must rest forever, in the absence of means to bring them again into light. The list of soldiers here following, according to Regiments and Companies, is taken from the "Military Register," a MSS. volume purchased by the State from *Alexander Neely*, for 100 acres of land in the Township of *Sterling*, *Cayuga* Co. (see chapter 265, Laws of 1828). *Neely*, a native of this State, had, while clerk in the War Department at Washington, compiled this register and as General *Dearborn*, Secretary of War, had by a letter of July 27, 1803, informed the then Secretary of State of *New York*, *Thomas Tillotson*, that "all returns made subsequently to the year 1781 and some of those made previous were consumed by fire with the War Office, in Novbr. 1800," the Legislature authorized the above purchase, a committee having found proof of its correctness.

The abbreviations used in the following list mean: A. P., Assembly Papers, containing petitions for bounty-land, etc., and reciting in nearly every case the applicant's service, the recital being fortified by affidavits of former superior officers and brother-soldiers.

C. A., the Minutes of the Council of Appointment, consisting of the Governor and a few Senators.

A, B, C, Aa, Bb, Cc, I, the Minutes of the Pension Board.

M. R., the Military Register, the entries of which are given in extenso, with the following omissions and abbreviations: the first date gives the day of entering in the Company; m. means *mustered*; E., served to the end of the war.

P. R., a pay-roll of the two Regiments, into which the New York Line had been consolidated in 1781.

An alphabetical index of the names of the Line and of the Militia Officers will follow at the end of the volume. This index does not contain the names of the soldiers of the Levies and Militia, which are arranged in alphabetical order.