

standing his defeat by a handful of men, as fine a piece of ground for defence as could be chosen: on his rear, the river and mills; on his right an open plantation with a high fence; on the left (a) very steep hill, full of trees and clear of undergrowth. The death of Capt. Falls in this action was greatly lamented: he was a brave, daring officer. This action was fought some time in the last of June 1780. This same Col. Moore, after his defeat, absent a year, was taken up as a Spy in So. Carolina, tried as such, convicted and hung ten miles below Granby on the Congaree River. At the same time, another person by the name of Fonderson was condemned (condemned), also, but pardoned under the galloes by order of General William Henderson.

After the battle of Ramsower, Col. Sumter, with his party, set out for Charlotte(sic) and encamped that night a few miles of the battle ground. A small party of Georgians had joined him; among them was a man named Paddy Carr. After he had taken up camp; this same Paddy Carr and another man went to a house about two miles (from camp) and inquired of the man of the house if he had not joined Col. Moore. Answer: yes, but after he was made prisoner, was set free by General Rutherford and had just got home to his wife and children. By this time it became duskish, Paddy inquires the way to camp. The man tells him the path forks in half (a) mile; you take such a hand. Carr tells him you must get up behind me and sho(w) me the path I must take: he did so. When they came to the forks, the man jumped of (f) and told him 'this is your path'. Then Paddy, Judas like, shot him dead on the spot. On the story being related to Capt. Winn by the man who was with him (Paddy Carr), I order Carr to be delivered over to the civil magistrates, which was accordingly done, but he was found in camp next morning.

Colonel Sumter after this took post on Clem's Branch fourteen miles below Charlotte (sic) in the neighborhood of New Providence, about the seventh or eighth of July 1780. Being informed that a body of British was on the march from Camden toward the Waxhaws (Colonel Sumter), went with his whole force to meet them, but after passing the Waxhaws, finding the information not to be correct, retreated. On consulting his officers, both officers and men were disbanded for a few days to recruit. By this time, Capt. Winn began to rank as a Colonel, tho with his party (Whig) led every station from a private up, well known the situation his country.

When Sumter disbanded his men, Winn and Charles Mills, then a Lieut., was the first to reach the Catawba Old Nation Ford, on the east side. Being informed that a considerable force of British and Tories had this day, the 11th July 1780, passed up on the other side of the River on their way to Hills Iron Works, and knowing that most of the officers and men would pass this way, determined to stop and see if they could get as many men as would fight Huck and his party. Both officers and men seemed loth to engage the horse as they (British) had cut Buford's men to pieces so shortly before; but about 130 agreed to follow and try the Business. (Col. Sumter had gone to No. Carolina) so we set out and marched all night. About two hours before day stopped at John Bells, a respectable man, to gain information of Huck (Captain Christian Huyck) and his party: was informed that they had stopt there a little the night before but had gone on to Col. Brattons on the Main Road where I would find them. In this I was mistaken, I found them at Williams (Williamson's?) plantation which joined Col. Brattons. Col. Lacey, (Lacey), Hill and Bratton being present, it was agreed on as Winn had been in the regular service that he should take command and dispose of the men as he thought best. When he got (with) in a mile of the Enemy, it was then about one hour to day brake. Here Col. Winn ordered the party to file off to the left of the Road and dismount, and immediately had the whole (troop) paraded. Then Capt. Read, a bold, daring officer, was ordered to pick out twenty-five men and file off (f) to the left of Col. Brattons plantation; and as soon as the action began in front, he was to attack the rear of the Enemy and take all straggling parties. At the same time (that) Capt. Read received his orders, the remaining part of the men commenced their movement to bring on the action (being the 12th July). On coming to the fork of the road, was informed by two Tories, in search of their horses, that Col. Ferguson (not Lt. Col. Patrick Ferguson of Kings Mountain) with his party lay in the edge of a field which was in advance of the British Horse about three hundred yards. Capt. Huck, who commanded, posted himself in a strong log house two stories high with his horses around him, prepared to mount in a moment if required. You must understand when I took the two Tories, I halted for a short time and sent Capt. McClure with his company (a)round Williams (Williamson's) plantation to attack the Enemy as soon as he heard the first firing. The sun was about to rise and, notwithstanding, I marched in 10 or 15 steps for (to) at least (within) 200 yards of Col. Ferguson's party. I was not

discovered until they were fired on. Col. Ferbuson and some of his men was killed the first onset; the rest ran and chiefly left their horses, tho saddled and ready to mount. Here we did not stop one minuit (minute) but went on to commence an attack on the British horse in a clear, open old field. We was paraded about one hundred yards from them. Capt. Huck, by the time he was mounted, was shot dead with several of his men killed and wounded; chiefst part of the rest run off, left behind them their horses, saddles, pistols, etc. We was in full possession of the field in five minuits without the lost of a single man, killed or wounded, as I am well convinced the enemy during the action never fired a single gun. As they run by Capt. McClure, he gave them a fire but was not near enough to do much damage. He had the misfortune to lose one man; being a little advance(d) before the rest, I was informed, killed by one of his own party. I do believe had I not lost the service of Capt. Read, but few of the British or Tories would have been able to have escaped. Lt. Hand of the British horse, in trying to escape on his horse, received a wound and finding he could not get off, raised a flag and delivered himself up to me, a prisoner to Winn. The British had taken several of Whig party which was retaken by us. The enemies lost killed, wounded and prisoners was considerable; besides about one hundred horses, saddles, bridles, pistols, swords and many other things. After the close of the action, Col. Winn ordered the whole to be got together and divided among the officers and men, much to their satisfaction; but Winn did not take to himself a copper worth of the whole spoil. The day being extremely hot and dry, Col. Winn had as many of the wounded as he could find taken and put in a house. A list of the prisoners taken. Lt. Hunt (Hand?) gave his own parole and was also bound that the men would not take up arms during the war or until exchanged. After Lt. Hunt applying and getting an order for three wagons to carry his, wounded to Rocky Mount which was the nearest British post. Thus ended a glorious day for S. Carolina as it put what few men we had in high spirits, as many often told us, they would rather fight the horse than the foot. I can say, on this day, both officers and men behaved brave in the defence of their country. This same Huck was one of those that cut Buford to pieces.

Col. Winn, the night before the action at Williams (Williamson's), made prisoner of one Owens which was Major to Col. Ferguson Regt. of Tories and took the Major on with him which was (as) a witness to Huck's Dft (defeat). Before he left the

battle ground, he gave Owens a parole and employed him as a spy, without fee or reward, to go to Rocky Mount, count the number of men and report the state and strength of the place, and meet him on such a day. All this Owens faithfully performed, which I reported to General Sumter.

As the laws of the State had subsided about this time, it was thought necessary to call a convention of the people which met in or near the Catawba Indian land. When the business of the meeting was opened, it was thought necessary to chose a President: when Col. Winn was called to the chair.

Secretary

The first thing that was taken under consideration was the critical situation of the State; and here it was solemnly agreed on by the convention, that they would support the laws, both civil and military, by every means in their power and called on the good people to aid them in this undertaking.

Secondly—that they would oppose the British and Tories by force of arms: which arms was never to be laid down until the British Troop(s) was drove from the st(ate) of So. Carolina and the Independence of the United States acknowledged. It was moved and seconded that Col. Thomas Sumter should be appointed a Brigadier General; and that the President make out a commission to that effect, and to sign the same in due form, which was accordingly done.

By R. Winn, Presdt. (President)

Countersigned by (the) Secretary

Several other officers being promoted, moved, seconded and agreed to.

That all such persons that would oppose the Common Enemy under the command of General Sumter, should inlist (enlist) for six weeks under proper officers, sign an attestation, take the oath for their faithful perform(ance) with the execution of the officers (orders). In a day or two, Gen'l Sumter found himself at the head of four or five hundred men. Moved, second(ed) and agreed to—

That all property of the Enemy taken in the field of Battle, or elsewhere, shall be divided among the officers and men who shall serve as above. But it shall be clearly understood that no such property shall be divided until first condemned by three Commissioners which is hereby appointed for that purpose. Which