

Uzal Johnson Timeline

Heavily excerpted from Dr. B. G. Moss' annotated diary transcription.

The Provincial officers were kept separate from the Tory prisoners. Doctor Uzal Johnson's unabbreviated account is very similar to Lt. Allaire's in your book. Some days look like one copied from the other's diary. Other days, they differed. Lt. Allaire's statement of patriot casualties could be exaggerated from pride to make his side's effort appear to match the Whigs. Allaire said 135 patriots killed with wounded equal to ours. That would be about 115 wounded, about 250 patriot purple hearts from the force of about 920. I doubt that the Whigs casualties reach Allaire's estimate. I am certain that they exceed the 1909 Kings Mountain monument plaque.

Fri 29Sep1780 Rebels collecting a force at Burke Courthouse (about 6 miles below Greenlee's Ford).

Sat 30Sep Richard Boyle (born in Ireland) took command of baggage wagons. Crossed Broad River at John Denard's Ford (later called Twitty's Ford). I took quarters at Mr. Powers' house.

Sun 01Oct Colonel Ferguson joined us from White Oak. No word of Clark's (Elijah) men.

Mon 02Oct Colonel Ferguson left at 5 pm in pursuit of Col Greyson (meant Graham?). Capt Boyle was ordered to Thicketty. I remained at Powers'.

Tue 03Oct. Departed at 5 am. Ten miles to Buck Creek. Overtook baggage. At 5 pm, left Dunlap at Case's house. Forded Pacolet River and followed baggage ten miles. Overtook it at William Abbott's and stayed the night.

Wed 04Oct 0600 Went 12 miles to Sharp's and stopped to dine. 3 miles to Tate's plantation on Broad River. He was out with the rebels. Ferguson ordered us to Camp's place (Kemp's) over Broad. Wagon horses were tired, so we stayed at Tate's.

Thu 05Oct. 4 pm. A strong party at the fording place (Cherokee Ford) so we crossed at the Ferry by 10 pm and proceeded a mile and a half down Buffalo Creek where Ferguson and the detachment were.

Fri 06Oct 6 am Moved 16 miles to Kings Mountain and took our ground.

Sat 07Oct Lay on Kings Hill. About 3 pm the alarm sounded and we took arms for attack. Gen. Williams led the rebels. When he got killed, Col Campbell took command. Colonels Shelby, Lacey, Brandon, Hampton, Graham, Sevier, Thomas (John Thomas of Fair Forest was actually held Prisoner at Ninety Six), Cleveland, Robinson (Charles Robinson was a captain under Sevier), and Candler _____. Their number was about 2500. They charged up the hill and the loyalist militia drove them back, but our numbers were too small to pursue. We retreated to the top to prevent them gaining the heights. The NC loyalists twice repulsed attack, but ran out of ammunition. Capat. DePeyster's regulars charged the rebels at the point of the hill and drove them a second time. 50 regulars killed and wounded. 225 loyalists killed and 72 wounded. Unknown how many rebels killed, but far inferior to ours if we judge by their wounded which was equal to ours. I was employed to treat them and get their number.

Sun 08Oct 11:00 am our men were marched from the ground. I remained to dress the wounded. Colonel Lacey and 200 rebels remained. He paroled the wounded who not able to march. At 8 pm we left. Went eight miles, overtook the wagons, and stayed the night.

Mon 09Oct. Left at sunrise. Went 4 miles to a Tory plantation. Found Colonel Campbell's men and the prisoners. I dressed the wounded. At 2 pm, we moved, went about 2 miles, forded Broad River and stayed at a Tory plantation.

Tue 10Oct. Left at 6 am, marched 20 miles, halted in the woods and stayed on the ground.

Wed 11Oct 8 am. Marched 12 miles to Col. Walkers'. *(Note that McCullough and Laird died Wed. night.)*

Thu 12Oct Stayed at Walkers'. Our baggage was divided to the other corps.

Fri 13Oct Moved at 10 am. Marched 6 miles to Biggerstaff's. *(complaints about clothing and baggage so he could not well attend the wounded, uncivil acts of rebels with promises and emissary from Ninety Six) Would not hemp do the business better? (why not just use linsey cloth to dress rebel wounds?)*

Sat 14Oct *Trials all day at Biggerstaffs, Hung nine.*

Sun 15Oct 5 am. Marched 32 miles up poor road on Cane Creek. Crossed Catawba at Island Ford (Greenlee's). Accepted the hospitality of Col. McDowell's home.

Mon 16Oct Moved at 2 pm. Forded North branch of Catawba and John River. Marched 5 miles to a Tory plantation.

Tue 17Oct Moved at 8 am. Marched 15 miles to Capt Holt's plantation.

Wed 18Oct Moved at 8 am. Marched 18 miles to Moravian Creek.

Thu 19 Oct 8 am. Forded Moravian Creek. Passed Wilkes Court House. Marched 16 miles to Hogewood's plantation.

Fri 20Oct 11 am Marched six miles to Sales' plantation.

Sat 21Oct 10 am Marched 14 miles to Headpath's. He is with Cornwallis. Lodged at Ed Clanton's. He is likewise with our army.

Sun 22Oct 10 am. We got permission to go forward with Col Shelby. Marched 10 miles. Forded Yadkin River at Shallow Ford. Continued 18 miles to Salem. About 20 houses and a church. Entertained by music. All mechanics. Farmers live in two more towns farther north.

Mon 23Oct Stayed at Salem. Two continental officers called at our quarters on their way to join the army.

Tue 24Oct Moved to Bethabara, a well laid town about the size of Salem. Berthed with Allaire. Had to get Col Campbell to remove a rebel who wanted to take Allaire's bed.

Wed 25Oce thru Sun 29Oct. Very unwell and stayed in my room. Mon 30Oct. Walked out.

Tue 31Oct Rode to Salem with DePeyster, Allarie, and Supple.

Wed 01Nov Went to Bathabara. Permission from Col Cleveland to dress wounds. Altercation with Cleveland over prisoner Williams. Col Armstrong relieved Col Cleveland to the relief of prisoners.

Thu 02Nov Visited Bethania, about 3 miles away. Larger neat town of farmers.